

Poetry Series

Frank Yue
- poems -

Publication Date:

2020

Publisher:

Poemhunter.com - The World's Poetry Archive

Frank Yue(Somewhere in time)

1937.09.21: Imperial Japanese Army Air Force Ace ?? ??? Shot Down Over China By ??????

1937.09.21: Imperial Japanese Army Air Force Ace Maj. Hiroshi Miwa Shot Down
by A Chinese Nationalist Pilot, Maj. Chan Kee-Kwong, at Taiyuan, China

- a true epic story by Frank C Yue

1
Yellowed but unforgotten magazine records show
On 21 September 83 years ago,
O'er the placid skies of Taiyuan, Shanxi,
Gallant defenders were anxious to see
24 invading Imperial Japanese
Bombers and fighters, like black-death disease,
Coming in formation - a violent, merciless gale -
While over the City air-raid sirens wail'd and wail'd.

2
In Peking just a little over two months ago,
Over the Marco Polo Bridge surged the foes
To dominate China weakened by internal strife,
Plundering, stifling people's right to life!
Against Japan's great military might
The poorly-equipped Chinese troops did fight!
13 August: Began the Battle of Songhu,
With the fall of Shanghai the Chinese armies withdrew.

3
Now 9 Mitsubish G3M medium bombers thundering came,
With 15 Type 96 Mitsubish A5M "new" fighter planes.
Only 4 Chinese Curtis 35/63 Hawk II bi-planes
Were stationed around the capital City: But not in vain!
Major Chen Qiguang (Chan Kee-Kwong) led his three comrades -
Lieutenants Su Yingxiang, Liang Tingyuan and Lei Yanjun -
To hurl themselves at the in-coming threats:
They knew they were racing towards certain deaths.

4
Their biggest wish: Ere their demise, to shoot down as many
As possible war planes of the enemy!
Second wish: To bring down own aircraft safely,
For man-and-machine to fight again fearlessly.

While Japanese planes lost would be quickly replaced,
Chinese losses meant even fewer fighter planes.
So injured Chinese pilots desperately tried
Landing, but ne'er abandoning, their damaged ride!

5

A fierce air battle erupted between David and Goliath:
4 specks of Gallant Defenders fighting in situation dire -
At 1450 hours: Around 8,000 feet high,
20 miles short of Taiyuan, up in the sky -
4 dots turned into fearless Flying Tigers breathing fire.
Each pounced upon a selected bomber: "Eat my sword fiery!"
But then 6 'Red Sun' bandit fighters ganged up on The Four.
Might there be more '12-point White Sun' fighters! Let there be more!

6

All chaos broke loose - Mad dogs chasing mad dogs: Dog fights!
With steel resolve, the Four Defenders fought with all their might.
One or two bandits swarmed after each Nationalist fighter -
For the first 10 minutes: Sharp turns, loops! "Rat-ta-ta-ta!"...
30 minutes gone: One of the pirates at 3,000 feet height
Was so badly wounded, out of combat had to take a hike.
Two more Jap fighters joined up, then jammed was Lt. Lei's guns;
He had to go, mission half-completed, to fight another day in the Sun.

7

Blatantly unfair: It was two against one! "Rat-ta-ta-ta!"...
Now still outnumbered, out-maneuvered and out-gunned,
Valiant Defenders were hit many times, one by one...
Lieutenants Su and Liang went down with their flaming planes!
Alas! Most of the marauding pirates were seasoned hands;
Our brave warriors relatively inexperienced men.
There was no radio on board in those early days;
With hand signals and wing dipping, pilots talk that way.

8

The sole survivor, though wounded, fought on still.
Enemy bullets busting, cutting through wood and steel...
As leader himself, Maj. Chan set his sight on the other -
Flying haughty with wing-man in train - the other leader.
It was a message clear: With a salute of the wing -
Two Opposing Lions would now duel one-on-one, sure thing.
No self-respecting Samurai could do this otherwise.
Challenge me and my superior machine - you shall die!

9

Dying was the last thing on Maj. Chan's mind: "I'll keep focus'd."

He thought, "Down I'll have his bloated ego cut."
Not your ordinary flyer, Maj. Chan was a maverick:
A great aerial acrobat, he rolled and turned unpredict'd.
For this and his shooting out of the sky four enemy planes four,
He was nicknamed 'Crazy Kee' and was expected to score more.
The Japanese squadron leader was the "Beiping Air Force
Commander";:

An "Ace" pilot, having shot down many a Chinese fighter!
10

9 bombers with 7 escort fighters then flew on their way
To civilian targets for their bombs to unload away!
4 of the remaining 6 Jap fighters were damaged; they circled mostly
Above the 2 whirling combatants, watching them closely.
and Maj. Miwa fought high and low;
Where one plane went the other was sure to follow.
Tenaciously they fought,
At one another they shot!

11

A gang of shameless cats, the strongest cat
Toying with a brave mouse, but a defiant one at that.
The Flying Samurai was most confident and rightly so -
His ride - the "Father of the A6M";, the predecessor of "Fighter
Zero"!

A prized possession was tucked to the side of the Ace's suit,
Gleaming samurai sword inscribed with the words "King of Pursuits"!
-Presented to him by a proud Emperor Hirohito,
Maj. Miwa, one of the "Four Aces";, a National Hero!

12

... Almost out of ammo, resorted to ramming!
Caught by surprise, the Ace at the last moment veered away.
So close to each other, the planes were at a near-slamming!
By Major Chan's last rounds, the Japanese cockpit was sprayed.
The Ace's plane fell from 3,000 feet, trailing thick smoke...
At once, 2 Japanese planes dived: RAGE! - their guns spoke and spoke!
twisted and rolled his plane, looping the loop;
Enraged Samurai Fighters dived steep and down they swoop'd...

13

The twin Keen Avengers kept firing their machine guns:
Hundreds of screaming 7.7 mm bullets flashed in the Sun.
There were just too many murderous, flying slugs: "Arrgh! ";
Fighter cockpits on both sides were not armour-plated;
Maj. Chan was hit in the shoulder, the legs and the left arm!

The engine groaned, billowed smoke and his plane was gutted.
His disabled plane, limping at 100 to 200 feet above the ground,
Crashed-landed at Taiyuan Lady Teachers' College sports compound.

14

Two mad Japanese Avengers dived in strafing, to finish him off.
They didn't want to report... No, they didn't want to be laughing stock:
With superior numbers and planes, the "Lone Ace-Killer" still got
away? !

And you still called him the "Sick Man of East Asia"? -No way!
Now with the dog-fights over, the Chinese military
Opened up with whate'er they had in their arms inventory.
The eager but Frustrated Avengers were driven away!
Bleeding profusely, a critically wounded warrior might come home for the day...

15

The shredded, crash-landing dark-green bi-plane banged against a wall:
Rescuers and helpers came running from directions all.
Maj. Chan broke some bones, and was also hit in the chest.
All bloodied, he appeared dead but he had given his best!
Maj. Chan remained in a deep coma for seven days...
That he got to walk with a limp, many were amazed.
His heroic deeds and resilience earned international praise;
But concrete help for China from the Powers wasn't on the way.

16

On the other hand, still falling was the King of Pursuits' plane...
An Ace fighter, control of his plane he struggled to maintain.
Dazed, on the nearest airfield Maj. Miwa landed his plane;
Then he was quite surprised to find
Chinese troops coming to take him alive.
Again, he took off fast: 40 miles outside Taiyuan he was seen last.
His battered plane finally crashed, and his body was found
With his precious sword and personal seal together bound.

17

Thus ended the glorious Son of Japan's battle last.
For China's and the World's, it would be eight years more, Alas!
By the Japanese Imperial General Headquarters estimate,
"Within three months of the war China would capitulate."
O! How deadly wrong they could be,
Everyone treasures one's liberty!
The Imperial Japanese forces in China finally
On 9 September 1945 surrendered unconditionally.

18

As regards Maj. Chan Kee-Kwong,

He remained in the army
And was assigned to a non-combatant post.
At the end of World War II he moved with his family to Hong Kong.
They then moved to Toronto in Canada later on;
Mr. Chan lived in quiet humility.
He passed away peacefully at the ripe old age of eighty,
Being surrounded by members of his family.

Frank Yue

3 Shadow-Less Kicks Vs 6 Machete Chops! (5 Of 5)

A DIY Life-Saver at the Receiving End of a Slashing Machete.

Simple and Effective Self-Defence Techniques.

This poem is the final chapter in the following:

1. A Winning Self-Defence Strategy (1 Of 5)
2. I'll Be Seeing You, Mr Punchman, Come Shine Or Rain! (2 Of 5)
3. An Encounter With Merpati Putih on the MS Oosterdam. (3 Of 5)
4. YUE'S (THE FOOL'S)SELF-DEFENCE GUIDELINES (4 Of 5)
- 5.3 Shadow-Less Kicks Vs 6 Machete Chops! (5 Of 5)

Disclaimer:

1. The author, though an experienced kung fu and qigong practitioner, is not a professional MMA fighter, bouncer, past hacker (with double meat cleavers) , a qualified black-belt martial arts instructor/sifu. So, carry on reading at your own risk!

(On the other hand you might be laughing to death!)

2. The author and publisher of this brief material, which is no child's play, are not responsible in any manner whatsoever for any personal injury or property damage that may occur through reading or following any advice or techniques offered herein.

3. The training activities and techniques, physical or otherwise, described in this short material may be 'over-simplified', particularly for the martially uninitiated. They may be too strenuous or even dangerous to some individuals. The reader should consult his/her doctor before attempting to engage in such practice.

Prologue:

In August 2013 in a brutal,
High-profile stabbing incident,
A righteous Hong Kong newspaper editor -
Of the Free Press a protector -
Was mercilessly hacked six times;

To the ICU he was confined.
He had gone to the gates of Hell;
Thankfully, he's back doing quite well.
With my old 'pen' for now, away -
Hear! Hear what I have to say,
Freedom Fighters you all are:
Might save your life these simple tips here!

1.

The pair of 'blade-wielder' don't come for your money;
This is not funny, nor phony.
That's right! They will sever your 'write' hand!
There, will you just stare, shake and stand?
Away from the jaws of Hell take flight,
At the first chance run for dear life!

2.

THE LEGS are your weapon longest;
Also, they're your weapon strongest!
Stop armed assailants in-coming,
At the knee, groin, shin -by hard kicking!
Stall the attacker, yell and take flight,
At the first chance run for dear life!

3.

Like Bruce Lee, kick quickly three times,
'Re-cock' mid-air your same leg fine.
Raise cross'd-arms with outward-facing palms,
Grab his knife-hand wrist, yell and 'Wham'!
Taken unawares, fight and take flight,
At the first chance run for dear life!

4.

If you miss your first target there
Don't just put your raised leg down:
Keep stomping his knee in mid-air!
Trample his foot, kick him to the ground!
Stun the attacker, yell and take flight,
At the first chance run for your dear life!

5.

To save yourself always rush in!
This is real close-quarters fightin':
Block or grab his 'cocked' (bent) weapon arm,
Punch his eye, chin -he's doing you harm!
Away from the mouth of Hell take flight,
At the first chance run for dear life!

6.

When you are punching or striking
Repeat the action without stopping!
Strike 'super-fast' and hard three, five times,
Kick hard, stomp him hard with your foot fine!
Stall the attacker, yell and take flight,
At the first chance run for dear life!

7.

Smartly snap your knee or leg up -
Take this, and this, and this! You thug!
Your powerful elbow and knee
From serious harm can set you free!
Away from the mouth of Hell take flight,
At the first chance run for dear life!

8.

Keep up a ferocious and continuous fight -
Leave no pause for the attacker to resume his attack:
Throw repeated elbow strikes to his temple, throat and neck.
At the first opportunity, take flight and run for dear life!
Now, start to train and train each day on one-leg standing -
Only from a stable base, can one be powerfully kicking!

9.

Of course it goes without saying,
If you're into techniques defending -
The 'leg work' helps avoid a close call
For also on-the-beat Law Enforcement all.
Stall the attack, kick again with might,
Take out your weapon, fight for dear life!

(- The End)

Frank Yue

A Man Of Advanced Years: Amid The Lotus Red And Waters Green ???? ??????

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Ci-Shi Double Palindrome Poem:

A Unique "Transformer Chinese Poem"

Readable in 4 Classic Forms -

Form No.1 (of 4) : 56-Character Qi Lu -

"Admiring The Sunset at Summer Bank"

- by ???? 'A Man of Advanced Years'

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Amid the lotus red and waters green,
Along the bank there stand hanging willows.
Looking afar, on the railing we lean;
Mimicking our moves lie the long shadows.
Beyond the shore, waves are gently rolling;
Ever so slowly, the Sun is setting.
Colours of pretty light gold, floating green -
Glittering on the tall mansions are seen.

Thin haze and smoke just veil the distant hills;
Layers upon layers of woods so still.
By the country ferry, moored side by side,
The waves the long formation of boats ride.
In a jiffy, a-flying past some magpies
Right across the serene beautiful skies.

O! Truly a wondrous sight -(my friend) -
I'm admiring this with my heart without end!

The translator won't do the other 3 renditions (due to his limited abilities) . In any case, the main theme remains the same.

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Frank Yue

A Man Of Advanced Years: So Fierce And So Powerful Are The Slashes All???? ??????? ????????

Qi Jué: 28-Character Quatrain:
"The Fast Broadsword"
-by ??? 'A Man of Advanced Years'
-Translated by Frank C Yue

So fierce and so powerful are the slashes all,
Each fast thrust then becomes faster and faster -
Chasing the wind, each step forward is an attack!
At ten-months-plus of Word-Playing, looking back -
All the favours and wrong doings, big and small,
In the Outlaws' World meet in talks and laughter!

(2014.07.06)

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Frank Yue

A Man Of Advanced Years: The River Waters Are Rushing Toward The East ?????????? ??????????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) : "Wish"
-by ???? 'A Man of Advanced Years'
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The River waters are rushing toward the east;
The People's urge for Democracy will ne'er cease.
O Countless dreams -gazing north at the Motherland!
In line to vote really freely, when may we stand?

(2014.07)

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Frank Yue

A Thousand Streams - To The One Moon They Sing ??

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"A thousand streams -to the one Moon they sing"

- A Ch'an Poem by Anon (Southern Song dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

A thousand streams - to the one Moon they sing;

Myriad homes - all re-vitalized by Spring!

A thousand streams, with water flowing by,

Reflect a thousand clones of the Moon on high;

Myriad miles of Blue where no Clouds fly,

Reveal myriad miles of the majestic Sky.

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Frank Yue

A Winning Self-Defence Strategy (1 Of 4)

This poem is the first chapter in the following:

1. A Winning Self-Defence Strategy(1 Of 4)
2. I'll Be Seeing You, "Mr Punchman", Come Shine Or Rain! (2 Of 4)
3. An Encounter With Merpati Putih on the "Oosterdam"; (3 Of 4)
4. THE FOOL'S SELF-DEFENCE GUIDELINES (4 Of 4)

"A Winning Self-Defence Strategy"; (1 Of 4)

Shun all hazardous scenes: It is imperative.
Always be prepared, alert and non-combative.
Walk away from insults, any threatening stranger;
Don't be bewildered when suddenly facing danger.
Against hostility, assertiveness apportion -
Be calm, confident, tactful before any action.

Of your own strengths and the enemy's, be sure.
But move like lightning when action is assured.
Expect the unexpected: Leave first strike to the attacker;
When shoved time and again, just bend his wrist or little finger.
Always apply the minimal force to match the mug;
Never blindly pursue a desperate thug.

When you're choked from the front with outstretched arms,
Break free with strong up-and-down ripping palms.
Palm-strike his chin, spear-hand his throat - the key
Is to strike through the target - and kick his knee.
The best defence is no offence and common sense.
Win without fighting, or run away, if you can.

Never find yourself in
Any dangerous scene.

(...)

Frank Yue

Alone, I Go Up The Tower High

"Brushing My Sentiments at A Riverside Mansion"
- Zhao Sha?

Alone, I go up the tower high,
Collecting my thoughts in flight;
Like water is the moonlight bright,
And the waters link up the sky.

O! Where's My Love who came with me here
Where we bathed in the silver moon-light?
The misty scene now swims into sight,
Vaguely like last year's.

Frank Yue

An Encounter With Merpati Putih (White Dove Martial Arts)on The Ms Oosterdam (3 Of 3/3 Of 5)

This poem is the final chapter in the following:

1. In Praise Of Last-Minute Cruises. (1 Of 3)
2. Where are you, my sweet little Plump Plum? (2 Of 3)
3. An Encounter with Merpati Putih on the MS Oosterdam. (3 Of 3)

This poem is ALSO the final chapter in the following:

1. A Winning Self-Defence Strategy (1 Of 5)
2. I'll Be Seeing You, Mr Punchman, Come Shine Or Rain! (2 Of 5)
3. An Encounter With Merpati Putih on the MS Oosterdam. (3 Of 5)
4. YUE'S (THE FOOL'S)SELF-DEFENCE GUIDELINES (4 Of 5)
- 5.3 Shadow-less Kicks Vs 6 Machete Chops! (5 Of 5)

An Encounter with Merpati Putih on the MS Oosterdam.
(During a 17-Day San Diego to Honolulu Cruise: Oct.20-Nov.5,2019)

Merpati Putih is Indonesian meaning White Dove, you see,
The martial art style of the royal Muslim family.
By observing a man's eyes, posture and movements, though,
If he's a trained fighter, you can deduce quite easily.
So, that's how I found out Noor, a Manager stout
In the Dining Room, is well-versed in Taekwando.

As a high schooler, Noor had learned the Merpati tradition,
It's all a matter of practice, concentration and devotion:
A teenage girl with her outstretched index-finger
Can break a thin metal rod.
To know that, may be you ought -
As on YouTube I'd seen such an amazing demonstration.

Tall, a light-heavyweight in his early thirties,

Noor is strong, highly sensitive to others' energy;
I tested him - With his right palm held up vertically,
He could sense my upheld palm's energy
From a table width away,
Even though I wasn't sending my qi his way!

Noor told me once in a room darkened,
With his friend seated fifteen feet away,
He was a little frightened
To suddenly see his friend's auric glow.
He said some Merpati Putih practitioners
Can go 'round obstacles even when blindfolded they are.

Each of us is of course a tiny spark of energy,
Radiating outward matters, heat and light;
Interconnected on Earth are our life,
And that is why, you see -
Like the planets, and stars in the skies high -
We're in constant motion like waves on the seas, until we die.

Noor used to be an experienced martial arts practitioner,
Winning a number of tournaments when he was a young man;
He was full of vitality and much fitter then.
But for some years now he didn't keep up with his martial way.
Even so, I said I was glad to say -
Your basic martial skills with you for life would stay.

Noor said he was taught how to absorb energy
From the Sun, the grass and the trees;
I told him one must be careful: There're good and bad energies!
Like us, trees and flowers may be sick too -
Thus, with a friendly "Hello!" - always ask for permission
Before proceeding with any energy extraction.

One may mentally draw strength from any source of energy:
Noor was a little surprised this goes also for the sea.
Look, I said, the sea is a little rough today -
When it's not in a calm and peaceful state,
NEVER try to take in the disturbed energy.
For this may not be so beneficial.

Be thankful, keep your needs simple, remain care free,

Live contentedly, merrily and healthily.
Never mean any harm to anyone any time;
If you don't feel comfortable, stop doing it - that's fine.
Do only GOOD THINGS to one another,
We can all make it a Better World together!

(- The End/...)

Frank Yue

An Epitaph (For My Tombstone)

Of death, we're not afraid -
A slim threshold we pass by,
Through Christ on the way,
To our Lord Father's Paradise.

Frank Yue

Anon: For Forty Long Hard Years Of Sweat And Tears, We're Back To The Pre-Liberation Years ?? ??????? ???? ????

"For forty long hard years of sweat and tears"

-Shunkouliu* by Anon

-Translated by Frank C Yue

For forty long hard years of sweat and tears,
We're back to the pre-Liberation years.
Now that pre-Liberation days are here,
For whom the great Revolution was fought?

"??????"??? -??

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*shunkouliu: ???According to David Bellos:

"These are satiric rhythmical (New China) sayings, often consisting of quatrains of seven-syllable lines. The regularity of the form is audible and also visible in writing, because each Chinese character corresponds to one syllable."

The above "jingle" or "barbed rhyme" is quoted by the prize-winning author and translator, David Bellos, Professor of French and Comparative Literature and Director of the Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication at Princeton University on page 133 of his book "Is That A Fish In Your Ear? -Translation and the meaning of everything" (Particular Books, England,2011)

And the following 3 different translations are excerpted (from a total of 12)from David Bellos' same book for your enjoyment. His witty book -"a whirlwind

tour round the highways and byways of translation in all its glorious forms
-is highly recommended. Thanks to his attacking the above shunkouliu from all directions, my 'second-creation' (if indeed I could still call this mine) came out almost effortlessly. Hehee!

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'Selected'... Translated Versions by David Bellos
-vide page 133 of his book 'Is That A Fish In Your Ear?' (Particular Books, England,2011) :

.....

('7. Adding rhyme;)

'Forty long years crack our spine
Back we go to 'forty-nine
Since we go to 'forty-nine
Back then who was it all for? '

('8. First polish;)

'Forty years we bend our spine
And just go back to 'forty-nine
And having gone to 'forty-nine
Whom back then was this for? '

('9. Adaptation, with double rhyme;)

'Blood sweat and tears
For forty long years
Now we're back to before
Who the hell was it for? '

.....

Frank Yue

Anon: The Green Lotus Would Blame Me For Coming In So Late ??????? ?????

Old Couplet Written on the Wall of Yellow Crane Tower

-by Anon

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The green lotus would blame me for coming in so late;
I dare not write any poem recklessly,
Afraid that parrots 'cross the river would laugh at me.

Long ago away the yellow crane and sage had fade';
Now the flute here again were I to play,
The phoenix in yonder hills would be frighten'd away.

(2016.08.04)

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Frank Yue

Arthur Chau Ka-Wah Everything Hinges Upon A Good Start; Together We'll Forge A New Dawn With Heart! ? ?? ??????? ???????

"Everything hinges upon a good start"

-by Arthur Chau Ka-Wah

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Everything hinges upon a good start;
Together we'll forge a New Dawn with heart!
For our classmates of Nineteen Sixty-three,
Shouldn't we gather to feast and talk care-free?
On the Fiftieth Anniversary -
Let's all open up, sing and be merry!
Organizing the big event's not easy -
Hey, Guys -just enrol early: Don't tarry!

(2013.09.27)

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(?????-???)

Frank Yue

Arthur Chau Ka-Wah: After My Prime, I Am Now Into Writing Poems And Verse ????: ??????? ????????,

2 Poems by Arthur Chau Ka-Wah

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Poem (1) :

"After my prime, I am now into writing poems and verse"

After my prime, I am now into writing poems and verse;
How many years and months are truly left? One shan't tarry!
O My old friends, my good friends! Don't mock me, make fun of me -
Just starting to walk, come and savour my toddler poems first.

Poem (2) :

"For over five decades, countless rivers and lakes we've roam'd"

For over five decades, countless rivers and lakes we've roam'd,
Each drinking his set of bitter cups, with sweet, sour tastes much.
Destined to meet in Hong Kong soon in an extra large room,
We'll drink, we'll talk, we'll sing, but will not judge.

So clear the bright Moon in the Sky of skies,
Year after year, peace in my heart resides.
Shining with ling'ring beams, the Sun goes down -
M'soulmate and I, our grand kids play around.

(2013.09.28)

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Frank Yue

Arthur Chau Ka-Wah: Dark Starry Night -Autumn Moon Shines Bright, Blows Cool Wind Light ??????, ?? ???

"Dark starry night, Autumn Moon shines bright "
-by Arthur Chau Ka-Wah
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Dark starry night -
Autumn Moon shines bright,
Blows cool wind light.
In the attic, alone, musing -
Evening rain comes a-visiting.
Hidden in my heart are tender feelings;
Everything's tinged with red by the Sun slanting.

(2013.10.)

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Frank Yue

Arthur Chau Ka-Wah: Good Friends Will Gather At The 3 C's Club - A La Yau Yat Chuen Club, We'll Sing, Talk And Drink Up! ?????c? ????????

"Two years after the orchid boats"

-by Arthur Chau Ka-Wah

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Two years after the orchid boats have gone,
In deep Autumn we'll again meet in Hong Kong.
Good friends will gather at the "3 C's Club" -
A la Yau Yat Chuen Club, we'll sing, talk and drink up!

(2013.10.01)

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Frank Yue

Arthur Chau Ka-Wah: The Full Moon, O So Round And Bright, Shines In The Dark Blue Sky Tonight?????? ? ??????

"The full Moon, O So round and bright"
(In Reply to "Brother Seven's" previous poem)
-by Arthur Chau Ka-Wah
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The full Moon, O So round and bright,
Shines in the dark blue sky tonight.
On this festive Mid-Autumn Day,
Though far apart, mill'ons gaze "sky-way"!
It's always difficult to find
Good old friends to savour fine wine.
Your fair message, 'Brother Seven',
Comes with deep sentiments through Heav'n!

(2013.09.20)

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Frank Yue

Arthur Chau Ka-Wah: Tonight, We're All White-Haired Guests, So Talented And Mellow???

" 'Cheers! ' -Lifting our chopsticks"

-by Arthur Chau Ka-Wah

-Translated by Frank C Yue

"Cheers! " -Lifting our chopsticks for a gourmet feast is such fun!

'High-fiving' and conversing softly make happy ev'ry-one.

Tonight, we're all white-haired guests, so talented and mellow -

We were young and handsome in our Love's dreams in the days of old!

(2013.10.01)

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Frank Yue

Aw, Where Are The Good Old Days?

"Aw, Where Are the Good Old Days? "
- Frank C Yue

Aw, Where Are the Good Old Days?
Gone are my foolish youthful ways.
Were I fifty years younger,
I still dared not join the protesters.

For one thing, I'm not so sure -
Should I wear black clothing, my brothers?
Should I wear blue clothing, my sisters?
Should I wear white clothing, hey misters?

But for sure, a helmet's required:
Or a bloody crown you might acquire.
And safety goggles, too
If an eye you don't want to lose.

I might wear a mask on my face,
In the crowds there's scarce little space;
The rows and rows of people so thick,
And I won't carry my walking-stick.

The PLA were on the march...
It would be a terrible blood bath!
Could you hear the distant rumbling?
Heavy armoured vehicles are rolling...

I heard loud screams and rapid shots -
In panic, I turned and ran from there;
Then I fell off my bed and thought
O, What a hellish nightmare!

Frank Yue

Bai Juyi: A Pair Of Swallows On The Beam, What A Fine Husband-And-Wife Team ??? ????? ??????

YAN SHI SHI LIU SOU

"Swallow Song to Show Liu the Elderly"

- by BAI JUYI (772-846)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

A pair of Swallows on the beam,
What a fine Husband-and-Wife team.
B'twixt beams, soil-saliva are mix'd,
To build a nest for their four chicks.
Yellow hatchlings grow day and night,
Always crying for more food flight.
Green worms are not easy to catch,
Babies' hunger is ne'er dispatch'd.
Though signs of stress beaks and claws show,
Fatigue the lov'ng parents don't know.
Even after a dozen flights,
Will the dear ones still need more bites?
After thirty laborious days,
Nestlings are plump, and Mom slim stays.
They're taught to speak and sing high notes;
Groomed are their fine feathery coats.

Once the young birds' wings become strong,
They're led up th' branches before long.
Off they fly -never looking back,
Dispersing in the wind, and tack.
The parents cry endless in th' wind!
But th' young birds are ne'er again seen.
Returning to their empty nest,
All night -sorrows swell up their breast.
Swallow, Swallow, grieve not like so,
Just remember your days of old:
When you were young you turn'd your back
To your parents and off you tack'd!
Your Mom and Dad were worried so -
Today, the same griefs you should know!

(2013.04.30)
parenthood
nature
life's journey
children

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Frank Yue

Bai Juyi: Jiangnan`s Beauty`s Unsurpass`d ??? ??? ?? ??? ????????

TUNE: "Remembering Jiangnan" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "Remembering Jiangnan"

-by Bai Juyi (Tang Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Jiangnan`s beauty`s unsurpass`d -
I`ve known its scenes since time past.
At sunrise at the River,
Than fire, the red flowers look better.
When Spring comes the River`s so blue.
Jiangnan, how can I e`er forget you?

(2016.05.19)

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Frank Yue

Bai Juyi's Endless Yearning ??? ??? ??? ????????

Endless Yearning

- Bai Juyi (Tang Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The Bian River a-flowing,

The Si River a-flowing;

To the Guazhou Old Ferry Point they're flowing -

Specks and specks of Lament still hanging

Over the Wu Mountains.

My Yearning never ending,

My Lament never ending;

My Lament is never ending

You have returned to me, until -

By the window in bright moonlight, for you I keep watch still.

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Frank Yue

Blatantly Violating Our Mighty Han Empire - ?????? ??? ? ?????? ?????

TO THE SUPREME SOVEREIGN

(After the Petition by the Han General Chen Tang)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Blatantly violating our mighty Han Empire -

No matter how far, they shall be exterminated.

Cunningly stealing our Islands by "private sale" -

Though a neighbour, must never be tolerated.

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Frank Yue

By One Old Man: The Leisurely Embankment White ??

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Spring Shadows at the West Lake

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The leisurely Embankment White

Lies in front of the Sun setting;

Fishing boats faraway are seen

Dotting the flashing sea green.

Spring willows softly swaying in sight,

In the wind myriad catkins blowing;

Alone, the full Moon silently

Shines on the Mountain Lonely.

(2016.05.20)

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Frank Yue

Cao Cao: O Let's All Drink And Sing Our Song - In Your Life Could You Live Years Long?????? ?????

DUAN GE XING: "Short Song Walk" (Excerpt)

-by CAO CAO (155-220) -

- Translated by Frank C Yue

O Let's all drink and sing our song -
In your life could you live years long?
Just like the transient morning dew,
Gone my sufferings, but more are due.
I will live my life to the full
Though worries are around me, too.
What can one do to be care-free?
Only answer -Come, drink with me!

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(2014.04.24)

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Frank Yue

Cao Zhi: Fuelled By Beanstalks, Beans Are Boiling ?? ? ???? ??????

QI BU SHI: XIONG DI:

"POEM COMPOSED IN SEVEN PACES: BROTHERS"

- by Cao Zhi (Wei of the Three Kingdoms)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Fuelled by beanstalks, beans are boiling;
All the beans in the hot pot cry:
"From the same root we are sibling -
Why eagerly us do you fry? "

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Frank Yue

**Chancameron6796155: Alone In Forest Hill Walk I; A
Long Stretch Of Sand And Soil I Stroll By ?????? ??????
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"5 Characters 4 Lines" ('Wujue')

-by chancameron6796155

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Alone in forest hill walk I;

A long stretch of sand and soil I stroll by.

The wind, the flow'rs and grass are friends of mine;

Calling my name are the birds wild.

(2016.11.02)

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Frank Yue

Chancameron6796155: Of My Love Gone Has Every Trace ????? ????? ????? ?????

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"Wujue: Searching for the Plum Blossoms"

-by chancameron6796155

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Of my love gone has every trace;
I won't believe the flow'rs are no more.
Through seasonal cycles forevermore,
In another life I'll see her face to face.

(2016.11.03)

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Frank Yue

**Chancameron6796155: The River, Alone I Stand
By; Refreshing Breeze By My Ears Glides ?????? ?????? ?
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"The river, alone I stand by"
-by chancameron6796155
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The river, alone I stand by;

Refreshing breeze by my ears glides.

How I envy the wavy fish flashing -

The time of their life they're having.

(2016.11.04)

«?????»chancameron6796155

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Frank Yue

Chancameron's "After Pillage By Bandits"; ??????? ???????!

"After Pillage by Bandits";
-by Chancameron
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Shocked and dazzled, dancing stars in m'eyes dwelt;
When the Dipper appeared crows are in bed.
With thirst and gladness, I found an old well -
But it was stuffed with the old folks...

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Frank Yue

Chance Encounter With A '3-Legged' Man (1 Of 5)

A Story of Hope and Perseverance:

Dedicated to my Mentor and Friend,
Andrew W. F. Wong ???
(Huang Hongfa)
-by his e-student Frank C Yue

This poem is the first chapter for -

1. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man (1 of 5)
2. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man (2 of 5)
3. Come, And Show Yourself If You Can, Mr. Chan - My Old '3-Legged' Friend! (3 of 5)
4. Mr. Chan Is My Inspiration, I've Re-Affirmed My Resolution (4 Of 5)
5. Good-bye, My 7-Minute Friend! (5 Of 5)

I have to stay in Hong Kong longer than previously plann'd -
Expensive medicine (with musk grain) by a competent man
(At the Baptist U Chinese Medicine Specialty Clinic)
Has, on my dear friend's long ailment, good effects specific.

Some mornings, I do qigong in my neighbourhood park
Where older folks come and go, they seldom leave their mark.
A microcosm of the lively seniors' community -
Mostly, each on her own spot doing her thing: No self-pity.

Quite punctually, a loose small group does taiji each morning,
Trying to follow the leader's every move and turning.
These slow moving bodies, just all women, are over the hill.
But their wrinkled eyes -inviting wines no more! -do sparkle still!

O, How I wondered where have all the "old-man soldiers" gone?
To the grave, ALL the other old braves couldn't have just passed on!
Maybe, lonely gnawing solitude further breeds lassitude,
Low self-esteem destroys once-proud guys' positive attitude!

Xin Qizi's words light up a mind not so old,
a heart none too cold:

"Do remember our days of old -
Golden halberd on war horse bold,
Like a fierce tiger, vanquished were the foes! "

And Alfred Tennyson's wise words too,
For us -lions-in-Autumn -to woo:

"We are not now that strength which in old days
Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are -
One equal temper of heroic hearts,
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

Some older folks are on wheelchairs, pushed by a helper or maid.
With nursing homes so near, they're here again later in the day.
Some older women are walking with the aid of a stick;
A "junior-senior" caught m'eyes with his gait and walking-stick.

With a head full of silver hair, he's in fact older than me -
(Though 'me' is not so young as 'me' wishes to be!)
But the "younger-old man" is a mere baby
Beside the active "ninety-fiver" lady!

No, he does not walk with a limp, but in small "lotus steps";
I thought: Could this be a major-stroke survivor, perhaps?
Then, after a number of days in silent encounter,
We finally say warmly "Good morning!" to each other.

He knows I have my own walking-stick, wielding it like a toy,
Walking sideways, now backwards... with the smile of a gleeful boy.
(This metal stick, I bought with twelve Hong Kong dollars only
From Jusco Ten Dollar Store, is the "park weapon" for me.)

We speak the same old county dialect, we're thrilled to find;

With the ice broken, I ask him one morning: Do you mind
Telling me why you walk this way?
And, maybe, help you I may.

"My calves and feet used to give me sharp pain,
they hurt so much.
My third and fourth vertebrae impinged on the nerves; as such,
The doctor said an operation was necessary
To quite safely remove my sufferings and misery."

"Only good news was, after surgery, the sharp pain was gone.
But somehow, both my feet were drained of strength from then on!
Now, I can't stand on my feet without a 'third leg' for long.
Fearing I may fall easily, I move in tiny steps -
for my legs aren't strong! "

Alas! He can hardly squat down or bend his knees.
Indeed, What kind of a helpful op. was this! ?
Let all ailing patients beware -
The 'knife' could be a hurtful ware!

(...)

(2012.07.01)

(Part 2 to follow...)

Frank Yue

Chance Encounter With A '3-Legged' Man (2 Of 5)

A Story of Hope and Perseverance:

Dedicated to my Mentor and Friend,
Andrew W. F. Wong ???
(Huang Hongfa)
- by his e-student Frank C Yue
(1st posted on 2012.01.07)

This poem is the second Chapter for -

1. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man (1 Of 5)
2. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man (2 Of 5)
3. Come, And Show Yourself If You Can, Mr. Chan
- My Old '3-Legged' Friend! (3 Of 5)
4. Mr. Chan Is My Inspiration, I've Re-Affirmed
My Resolution Friend (4 Of 5)
5. My 7-Friend (5 Of 5)

To regain some strength in both your feet, will you listen to me?
I can do all these simple things I'm going to show you, you see.
Dump ALL your negative mental, physical burdens in this playground.
Be most thankful you can walk, and grow stronger daily, round after round!

I don't just talk the talk,
I also walk the walk
And do walk while I talk,
Or talk when I do walk.

Walk with confidence, stability, with a much wider gait -
Before moving one leg forward, over it empty your weight.

The other leg thus supports your body one hundred per cent.
Never drag your feet along the ground, walk with high spirits then.

All the toes of the supporting leg grasp the ground firmly,
As if the substantial leg digs into the ground deeply.
Time to move supporting leg: Relax and empty it at once;
With practice, smooth walking will be automatically done.

Obviously, his leg muscles and tendons badly need strengthening.
I show him the Nazi "Goose-steps", the most vigorous parade thing!
He's then glad to kick out each empty leg ere putting it down again;
(Later, he should kick twice, thrice for each leg: His efforts shan't be in vain.)

"When an antique tree's health begins to fail,
First its firm roots will rot and become stale!
When numbered are a senile person's days,
Often the feeble legs will first give way." **

Knowledge is certainly power, but it's only potential power.
To realize full power, one must take strong action hour after hour.
Knowing how to do it is only half of the whole story -
We ourselves must take action to attain our goals, our glory!

Vigorously working the leg muscles will grow them daily.
So, one must also train them by standing on One Leg only.
At first, just put one hand on the bench-back as one-leg stand is done;
Increase the time, change legs, withdraw hand: Voila! -the first battle's won!

I show him the progressively more
Difficult stands -like the "Figure 4":
Hands, leg raised either behind or fore.
Plus the Shaolin's One-leg squattin'
"Arhat Worshipping Buddha" form -
Now, he's driven to do just below the norm.

I do not see him for a couple of weeks when sightseeing north;
Afterwards, as I set sight on him a pleasant surprise springs forth.
Even at a distance, he's walking taller, with greater stride;
With his trusted cane, he now moves with some ease and great pride.

I compliment him amply on his fine work done so good;
How did you manage to keep up the hard work as one should?

"I could ill-afford a wheelchair plus helper, that'll be so blue!
And I am doing this not just for m'self, but my grand kids, too."

"My back's now right against the rising, raging, cruel river -
If I still refuse to exercise and forge ahead strongly,
I'll be caught, by both time and tide; end up in 'the drink' wrongly.
I don't really fancy drowning in misery forever! "

I see him again and again, on and off, some weeks later.
Other park users say he's generally walking better.
Sometimes, his performance could be better, but time he's borrow'd;
Let's hope he'll persevere, walk even better for each morrow!

(At the same local park here
I might not see him next year.
For him, I have more tricks to show;
Of him, only if I'd get hold.)

Adieu, Adieu! My young "old" friend,
I'm shunning the bustling city To return to serenity.
Take good care; Should you dare -
We shall all walk briskly, again!

**... "When numbered are a senile person's days,
Often the feeble legs will first give way."

- my rendition of the popular Chinese folk saying:

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Frank Yue

Chen Mengjia's "A Wildflower In The Wilderness Bloomed And Died" ??? ??????????????

"A Wildflower" (written in January 1929)

-by Chen Mengjia (1911-1966)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

A wildflower in the wilderness bloomed and died,
This little life unexpectedly
At the Sun was smiling.
God gave him wisdom, he knew why -
His joy, his poetry,
In the wind gently swaying.

A wildflower in the wilderness bloomed and died,
He saw the blue skies,
But not his own tiny-ness.
He was used to the wind's tenderness,
And the wind's angry prowess.
His dreams turned into forgetfulness.

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Frank Yue

Chen Quanqi's Alone, I Stand By The Railing - Alone By The Railing ??? ??????? ????????

'Four Sighs for the Yellow Earth'

-by Chen Quanqi (656~714)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Alone, I stand by the railing - alone by the railing;
Teary eyes look at teary eyes while the tears are falling.
Homes abandon'd, m'country's breaking up - homes and country breaking;
O When shall we all be smiling, when shall we be smiling?

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Frank Yue

Chen Tien-Chi: We Love Looking At Mountains Green And The Lake Aquamarine ?????????? ???????

Tune: Like A Dream

Title: Year-end at Little Egret Point in Drizzle

-by ??? Chen Tien-Chi (Chen Tienji) ,

Emeritus Professor in Computer Science & Engineering,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

-Translated by Frank C Yue

We love looking at mountains green
And the lake aquamarine;
With long drizzles, the branches now begin dripping.
Hand-in-hand, on the railing we are leaning;
O! Envy not the pair of phoenix flying.

Pitter-patter,
Pitter-patter -
News of early Spring
Each rain-drop does bring!

(2014.08.06)

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Frank Yue

Chen Zhixin: 5-Element Couplet 五元素对: 五元素对 五元素对 五元素对

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A UNIQUE "FIVE-ELEMENT" COUPLET

-by CHEN ZHIXIN (1614-1692)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

'Round the pond, rising Mist locks up the Willows in his sway;
Lanterns shed faint light on painted railings and rippling waves.

This is a special type of Chinese couplet in which the "five elements" - of Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal and Water - are contained in each of the characters in both the first and second halves of the couplet. Though the order of the 5 elements as shown in the second-half couplet does not match that in the first, the two related phrases together make poetic sense and paint a beautiful picture! Quite an achievement!

(2013.09.12)

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Chen Ziang: ??? ????? ????? ????? ?????

GAN YU: "Pondering Over My Experience" No.3 (of 38)

-by CHEN ZI'ANG (661-702)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Fort Ding Ling is so desolate,
With its lonesome, cold, dark fate -
From days of old to nowadays,
It is so far, far away.
Tall watch-towers dilapidated,
Scatter'd white bones ne'er collected.
Three thousand armour'd troops times a hundr'd
Did fight the fierce invading Huns.
They fell on frontier battlefields old;
Who would pity these lonely souls?

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Frank Yue

Chen Ziang: Before Me, Where Have All The Sages Of Yore Gone? ??? ?????? ??????

Deng You Zhou Tái Ge:

"A Song: On Ascending the Youzhou Gate-Tower"

-by CHEN ZI'ANG (661-702)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Before me, where have all the Sages of yore gone?
Behind me, where are their successors (-Tell me, m'friend) ?
O Heaven and Earth, how boundless and without end!
I'm all alone, down my cheeks tears keep rolling on.

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Frank Yue

Cheng Kwok-Kong: Hong Kong, My Heart's Native City

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"Hong Kong, Hong Kong! "

-by Cheng Kwok-Kong

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Hong Kong, my heart's native city,
Where I grew up then
With my relatives and friends,
And the golden Sun pretty!
The passers-by literally running -
To and fro hurrying -
Their diligence much to my liking.
Too many good points here worth mentioning!
Hong Kong,
Hong Kong -
I'll say this again
(And again)-
The place where I'll ne'er dream in vain!

Hong Kong,
Hong Kong -
Your glamorous hues so beguiling -
Atop the Peak, I see the island in water lying,
Everywhere new looks are found;
Look, the sea-gulls a-flying o'er the Free Port fair.
At the seaside, I watch the island her night dress bare;
Everywhere glittering abound.
So irresistible the attractions in areas urban!
Reflected here, my childhood dreams, too.
Hong Kong,
Hong Kong -
It's hard for me to e'er forget you!

(2014.07.)

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Frank Yue

Chinese Couplet By Jin Yong ??????? ???????

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Chinese couplet by Jin Yong

- Translated by Frank C Yue

When the FLYING SNOW LINKED up the HEAVEN and the earth,
The GREAT CONDOR SHOOTER went after (the FOX and)the DEER WHITE;
He SMILED at BOOKS that to DRAGON and chivalry give birth,
While leaning on his BROADSWORD by the MANDARIN DUCKS BRIGHT.

Note:

The couplet written by Jin Yong embodied the titles of all his popular martial novels, as follows.

?????????????????:

1???? Story of the Flying Fox

2???? The Flying Fox of Snow Mountains

3??? Song of the Linked Cities

4???? The Eight Deities of the Dragons in Heaven

5????? The Great Condor Shooter

6????? White Horse Neighing in West Wind

7??? The Deer and the Cauldron

8???? Smile and Walk Tall in the World of the Unlawful

9????? Story of the Books and the Sword

10 ???? The Great Condor Couple

11 ??? Travels of the Great Hero

12 ????? The Heavenly Sword and the Dragon Broadsword

13 ??? The Bright-Blood Sword

14 ??? The Mandarin Ducks Broadwords

Frank Yue

Chinese Couplet The One Who Can Always Eat "Life's Bitter Of Bitters" ????? ?

Chinese Couplet

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The one who can always eat "Life's bitter of bitters"
Shall emerge head and shoulders above all the others.

Of course, a more idiomatic translation, as suggested byin another blog, would
be:

"Those who can endure the toughest of life's toughest challenges shall
emerge head and shoulders above others."

(2013.10.16)

Frank Yue

Chinese Couplet: "One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven" (A Child Can Say These, Even!)???? ??? ????????

A "Numbers" Homonym-Omission Couplet

- by Anon (Qing Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

"One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven"

(... A child can say these, even!)

They represent "Loyalty, Faithfulness, Filial Piety,

Brotherly Love, Courtesy, Righteousness and Humility";

But when "No. Eight" is missing it's NOT the same -

That means the "last virtue" is absent: There's "No Shame"!

Atop the couplet, you see,

Just four words are written:

(Homonyms) "Wang Ba" for "Bastard!" sounding like

"Eight forgotten",

And "Wu Chi" that means "No Shame" blatantly!

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(2013.10.11)

Frank Yue

Chinese Couplet: Lu Mengzheng "2,3,4,5; 6,7,8,9" ??? ???? ????

"2,3,4,5; 6,7,8,9":

An Odd Encoded Homonym-Omission Couplet

- by LU MENGZHENG (946-1011)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

"Two, Three, Four, Five,

Six, Seven, Eight, Nine."

"No ONE"- "Wu Yi": "No clothes" to wear;
that's it.

"Missing TEN"- "Shao Shi": that's "Little
toeat"!

Written on top of the ultra terse couplet: "North, South" only;
"Dong Xi": "East, West", the other twodirections are
missing clearly:

That can only mean one thing -

In my 'home' there is "Nothing! "

(2013.10.15)

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Translator's Notes:

1. We each have 5 digits in each hand. "1,2,3,4,5" on the right,
"6,7,8,9,10" on the left.

2. Therefore, "-2,3,4,5" = "No 1", pronounced as

"Wu Yi" (in Chinese) = '??' (?) , meaning "No clothes".

3. "6,7,8,9 - " = "Missing 10" = "Shao Shi" = '??' (?) , meaning "Little to eat".

4. ??(??) : "??", (??) ?? "??"?

Written atop the couplet: "North, South" only; 2 of the 4 cardinal points,

but "Dong Xi": "East, West", the other 2 directions are missing.

and the 2-word combo "??" also means "something".

Therefore, ?? "??" = (have) "nothing" (at home) !

The young scholar then was in abject poverty.

Frank Yue

Chinese Couplet: Where There Is A Will There Is A Way ?? ?????? ??????????????

A Famous Chinese Couplet

Where there is a will there is a way;
Breaking cooking pots, sinking their ships -
The one hundred and two Qin cities
Were over-run by Chu finally.

Man of firm resolve ne'er forsaken by Fate;
But one needs to endure great hardship -
Just three thousand armoured Yue troops
Great victory over Wu did scoop.

(2016.08.16)

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????? Where there is a will there is a way

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Frank Yue

Chinese Folk Sayings On Ageing: ?????! ?????? ???????

Some popular Chinese folk sayings on Ageing: Beware!

- Tr. by F C Yue)

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Old age grows from your foot!

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For the trees growing too old, first to rot is their root;
For people growing too old, first to fail is their foot.

Why is this so?

Your feet (and knees too: they support your whole body weight every day!)are located farthest from the heart that pumps out oxygenated-blood carrying the essential nutrients out to (and helping eliminate the toxic wastes from)all the tissues and organs...With the heart muscles inevitably weakening over time, the efficiency of the heart functions drops and then the extremities of the body will first suffer.

(That's why long ago i taught my grandchildren, for fun and friendly competition in the park, to "stand on one leg". The one-leg stance forces each leg to become stronger by supporting the whole weight of the body. It's not just training the leg muscles per se. with suitable encouragement and incentives, the young child gains eye-body co-ordination, stability, confidence and slowly learns how to persevere in one's pursuits.)

Frank Yue

Chinese Martial Arts Saying: For The Mighty Fighter There's Always Someone Mightier ??????? ????????

Chinese Martial arts Saying

For the mighty fighter there's always someone mightier,
For the high mountain there's another higher.

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Frank Yue

Chinese Saying On Perseverance: To Train For Supreme Skills And Be Fit As A Fiddle ??????, ??????

To train for supreme skills and be fit as a fiddle,
You'll have to grind the iron rod into a sharp needle!

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(2016.01.11)

Frank Yue

Chinese Saying On Persistence ?????? ??????

Just one minute's performance on the stage (in the spotlight)
Demands ten years off-the-stage hard training (with no oversight) .

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(2016.01.11)

Frank Yue

Chinese Translation Of R L Stevenson's Where Go The Boats ??????? ??????

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(2015.11.05)

"WHERE GO THE BOATS? "
-ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON (1850-1894)

Dark brown is the river,

Golden is the sand,

It flows along for ever,

With trees on either hand.

Green leaves a-floating,

Castles of the foam,

Boats of mine a-boating -

Where will all come home?

On goes the river,

And out past the mill,

Away down the valley,

And away down the hill.

Away down the river,

A hundred miles or more,

Other little children

Will bring my boats ashore.

Frank Yue

Chinese Translation Of Robert Frost's Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening ????????

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
- BY ROBERT FROST

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

An attempted translation in Chinese:

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- ?? ???

- Translated by Frank C Yue

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Frank Yue

Chinese Translations Of C. Rossetti's Is The Moon Tired? ????? ????? ????? ?????

“Is The Moon Tired?”
-CHRISTINA ROSSETTI (1830-1894)

Is the Moon tired? She looks so pale
Within her misty veil;
She scales the sky from east to west,
And takes no rest.

Before the coming of the night
The Moon shows papery white;
Before the dawning of the day
She fades away.

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Frank Yue

Chou Meng-Tieh's My Choices ??? ??????????????

My Choices

- Chou Meng-Tieh (1921-2014)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

I choose to be my teacher Water -Why?
Water fills up in places high,
(And when it downwards flows)
Water fills up places low.
I choose Grass as my life -
The grass is resilient like so,
You can just roll it up;
Uproot it, and the heart is still full of strife.
I choose to read one's books and poetry,
Without knowing the person's history.
I choose to write an essay good,
Without an excellent sentence (as it should) .

I choose to walk slowly, from here to afar -
(Maybe to reach the yonder stars...)
Slowly merging with the setting Sun,
And the hills beyond hills, into One;
I'll not deviate slightly (-you'll find)
From this chosen path of mine.
I choose not to have any thoughts,
When things are noughts;
I choose to have a mind fluttered not,
When things are in chaos.
I choose finally to be awakened,
So I could be enlightened.

“” (1921-2014)

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Frank Yue

Chow Yiu-Fai: The Hot Sun Hurling Light And Heat, Too ?????? ?????? ??????

"Keep It Up -Persevere! "
-Lyric by Chow Yiu-Fai;
-Music by Michael Lai and Stephen Mok.
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The hot Sun hurling light and heat, too,
No fashionable clothes here, still;
I undress at will -
The struggle of Youth!

On a major thoroughfare,
Gradually, the poems are stubborn here.
I continue singing through and through -
The method of Youth.
The Rains will fall free,
Night's here when it's late.
But an Umbrella you will give me.
When all Hopes may evaporate
The World is like Smoke.

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Like an Umbrella is my Soul,
Holding up the green grass and yellow flow'rs.
Like an Umbrella are the days and hours,
Keeping Hope up, even for a twinkling!
Always remember, so -
When you're down sitting
I am here.
When my head's raising
You are there.

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Keep It Up -Persevere!
There's Love when you grow weary.
When we are Free
We'll start again.
Open up a new You, a new Me -
That is Beauty!

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Don't doze off, too -
Some angels you'll be a-meeting,
Some tears there will be a-falling,
The requirement of Youth!

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The Rains will fall free,
Night's here when it's late.
But an Umbrella you will give me.
When all Hopes may evaporate
The World is like Smoke: Ignore it.

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Like an Umbrella is my Soul,
Holding up the green grass and yellow flow'rs.
Like an Umbrella are the days and hours,
Keeping Hope up, even for a twinkling!
Always remember, so -
When you're down sitting
I am here.
When my head's raising
You are there.

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Keep It Up -Persevere!
There's Love when you grow weary.
When we are Free
We'll start again.
In the end, One Day there will be no more Fear,
Hand-in-hand we shall all walk Every-where.
Always remember,
When you're happy as the birds, you'll be laughing;
When you're confused, you will be crying.

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Keep It Up -Persevere!
There's Love when you grow weary.
When the Future's here, keep It Firm!
Open up a new You, a new Me -
That is Beauty!
Open up a new World (of Duty) ,
We will all return Home.

(2014.10.16)

Frank Yue

Ci Kongchu: Back From Fishing, To Leave The Boat Untied It Is Best ??? ?????? ???????

Jiang Cun Jí Shì:

"A Scene at the Riverside Village"

-by CI KONGSHU (720-790?)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Back from fishing, to leave the boat untied it is best;
At riverside village, the Moon sets and it's time to rest.
Even though strong winds may blow the boat adrift at night,
Blocked by dense reed-flow'rs in shallows, the boat won't take flight.

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Frank Yue

Climbing Achilles Heels There's One Thing On My Mind -Legendary Treasures Of The Body To Find! 1 Of 2

A SURREAL ANATOMICAL ODYSSEY: 1 of 2...

- by Frank C Yue

A lighthearted Play on Words

about BODY PARTS and more...

Climbing ACHILLES HEELS there's one thing
on MY MIND -

Legendary treasures of THE BODY to find!

Lo, and behold! What emerald LEAVES OF
THE LUNG

Are growing with such fragrance and beauty
unsung?

The lone CALF IN MY LEG lows against the

graying sky

As thousands of buffalo thunder and rush me

by.

Stalked by hunger I feast gladly on THE
FEET'S SOLES,

My only ADAM'S APPLE and CORNS ON

THE TOES.

Hush... Listen, listen! From a distance can you
hear

The natives beating the throbbing DRUMS OF
THE EAR?

What studious, polished, ALL-ROUND

PUPILS reside

In the shuttered twin dormitories of THE
EYE?

Ambushed by the elusive CROOK IN THE

ELBOW,

I swiftly turn and fell him with blow after blow.

Exhausted, I loosely hang my poor BURNING
HEAD

In the cool, soothing shade of THE PALM OF

MY HAND.

Bored, I kick and kick THE BALL OF MY

FOOT around,

Play many a 'frisbee' where SPINAL DISCS

ABOUND.

O, the precious jewels of THE CROWN

OF THE HEAD are nowhere to be found!

(2013.10.21)

For 2 of 2, please check out -

"I just barely escape the stealth tiger's sharp claws" (2 of 2) .

Frank Yue

Cloud Wind Thunder Lightning: ????? ??????? ? ??????? ? ????????????????

"Boating on the Lake"
-by Cloud Wind Thunder Lightning
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The serene far mountains lie -
With veiled views the tourists to beguile,
In mist and rain in a boat touring.
Along the painted bridge rambling,
I hear the cuckoos a-crying.
In leisure exotic dream of mine
Does with the fickle Spring breeze ride!

(2016.05.20)

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Frank Yue

Come, And Show Yourself If You Can, Mr. Chan - My Old '3-Legged' Friend! (3 Of 5)

This poem is the third chapter for -

1. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man(1 of 5)
2. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man(2 of 5)
3. Come, And Show Yourself If You Can, Mr. Chan - My Old '3-Legged' Friend! (3 of 5)
4. Mr. Chan Is My Inspiration, I've Re-Affirmed My Resolution (4 Of 5)
5. Good-bye, My 7-Minute Friend! (5 Of 5)

Mr. Chan, how are you now?
O Mr. Chan, where art thou?

These days, back to the local park I go,
When the Dawn's still young, for the 'morning show';
Students and office workers hurry by
Before the Sun in the sky rises high.
While other pedestrians walk past in stealth,
Some home-helpers chat loud among themselves.

Now, groups of old folks are exercising
As early birds in the trees are singing.
These bodies in motion are mostly women,
That makes me wonder: Gone where have all the men?
Here are only a few singleton males, including me,
Each doing his own thing on his tiny territory.

Most of the active 'Fairer-Sex' working out here
Are the same moving bodies I did meet last year.
In unison, the ladies are now doing Taiji;
Then the popular '18-Form Qigong Taiji';
Some older ones can barely keep up with the others;

But, rather than not moving at all, this is far better.

While exercising, I keep looking around,
Hoping to see "Mr. Chan" at this playground.
He's my friend: A man with a cane I met last year
When I taught him how to walk more at ease here -
How to walk with confidence, with a wider stride;
He persevered and was walking with greater pride.

Now, these mornings will I ever meet him again?
I'll see how he's improved and what can be done then.
"My name's Chan," he said last time in the morning light;
This time around, on him I hope to set sight.
For him, I have more tricks to show;
Of him, only if I'd get hold.

... When, in the park, there is almost no one around
I would jump onto the bench like a drunken clown,
Turning left and right, avoiding, deflecting enemy blows,
Twisting this way and that, following different rhythm flows,
Thrusting my twin fists skywards, body extending,
Crouching down low with resting stance, body contracting...

But - Mr. Chan's nowhere to be found,
Though I look and I search around.
If you can read this, my old friend,
Just show up and we'll talk again.
We walked side by side together
In this park last year, remember?

O! How quickly things shall come to pass...
Happy moments are too beautiful to last,
It's useless to lament things gone by in the Past.
To the Present, with your Loved Ones, hold on fast!
Could he have moved into a home for the elderly?
Or, to the Happy Land? There's a possibility.

Come, and show yourself if you can -
Mr. Chan - my old 'three-legged' friend!
Some day we will meet again,
The sufferings shan't be in vain -
When breaks the New Morning

In the Eternal Spring!

(2013.10.06)

(...)

Frank Yue

Composite Couplets: ??????? ???? ?????? ???? ?

"Word-Building" Chinese Couplet

(Allegedly composed)

- by E and Ji Xiaolan

- Translated by Frank C Yue

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Version 1:

Beneath the mountain high,
A rock jugs out of the cliff where
Some growth of old wood is rotting.
These make good fire-wood.

Inside the curtains fine,
Wrapped in a long towel in bed there
A pretty woman is resting.
Be more fantastic -a teenage girl would.

Translator's Note:

On the last line of the English rendition, the "teenage girl" in this time and age should be construed as "either 18 or 19";, legally an adult by modern day standards.

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Frank Yue

Couplet At Líng Yún Temple ??????????????,????????????? ??

Couplet at the Líng Yún Temple in Lè Shan, Sìchuan

-by Anon

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Laughing at Old Days, laughing at To-day,
Laughing at the East, laughing at the West,
Laughing at the South, laughing at theNorth,
Laughing while Coming Back, laughing while Going Forth -
Laughing at Self just have Perception andKnowledge nil.

Looking at Issues, looking at Things,
Looking at the Heav'ns, looking at the Earth,
Looking at the Sun, looking at the Moonround,
Looking Up, looking Down -
Looking at Others who have their Highsand their Lows still.

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Frank Yue

Couplet Dedicated To The Martyred Freedom-Fighters Of The Pre-1911/12 Xin Hai Revolutio?????? ???? ??????

Couplet Dedicated to the Martyrs of the Pre-1911/12 Xin Hai Revolution in China:

-by Anon

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The head couldn't be glorious and majestic
Unless off it was lopp'd;
No bones could e'er bear fragrance aromatic,
Buried 'neath turf and rock.

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Frank Yue

Couplet: For The Road Up Book Mountain High ?????? ? ????????

Famous Chinese Couplet
(for students and continuing life education)
-by Anon
-Translated by Frank C Yue

For the road up Book Mountain high -
Diligence is the way to be;

To cross the boundless Knowledge Sea,
The boat of Hard Work one should ride.

(2013.09)

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shu1 shan1 you3 lu4 qin2 wei2 jing4,
xue2 hai3 wu3 ya2 ku3 zuo4 zhou1.

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Famous Chinese Couplet
(for students and continuing life education)
-by Anon
-Translated by Frank C Yue

For the road up Book Mountain high -Diligence is the way to be;

To cross the boundless Knowledge Sea, The boat of Hard Work one should ride.

Couplet: Sadly, I Now Offer Wine To Your Spirit Heroic! ????? ?????? ?????? ????????

Funeral Couplet Written for Qiu Jin
- by Dr. SUN YAT-SEN (1866 - 1925)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

In Tokyo we did vow,
Together with one Purple Heart,
For the oppressed Masses to start
The All-Alliances Society patriotic.

At Gu Xuan Ting Kou, how
Gen'rous you spill'd your red-hot blood!
Of change, to call forth the Great Flood!
Sadly, I now offer wine to your Spirit heroic! c

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Frank Yue

Couplet: The Pedestrians Pass The Big Buddha Temple By ?????????????? ??????

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Palindrome Chinese Couplet '

(for a certain Temple)

-by Anon

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The pedestrians pass the Big Buddha
Temple by;

The temple Buddha's bigger than the
passers-by.

Frank Yue

Couplets: Disappointed Year After Year, Year After Year, My Hope's Still Fierce ??????? ????????

A Distressing Couplet attributed to a failed, suicidal student changed to a positive one

- ??? Gguo Mòruò (1892 -1978)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

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[Original Couplet 1]:

Disappointed year after year,
Year after year, my hope's still fierce.

Everywhere it is hard to find;
I still try everywhere to find (what's mine) !

Where is Spring?

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[Response Couplet 2]:

Disappointed year after year,
Year after year, my hope's still fierce.

It's hard to achieve everything,
But then, once achieved, everything takes wing!

Spring's in the heart!

Frank Yue

Cui Hao: Riding A Yellow Crane, Gone Was The Sage Of Long Ago ?? ????????

"The Yellow Crane Tower"

- Cui Hao

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Riding a yellow crane, gone was the Sage of long ago;
Here, only the empty Yellow Crane Tower remains.
Once gone, the yellow crane will never return again;
For ten centuries, the lonely white clouds keep rolling on.

On the sunny water, the Hanyang trees are reflected clearly,
While on Parrot sandbar the fragrant grass grows lushly.
The Sun's slowly setting, O Where, where is my home-town?
From the river's misty waves, Sadness is spreading all around.

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Frank Yue

Cui Hui: In The Gloomy City Solemn ?? ??????? ???????

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"The Night Cock"

- Cui Hui (Tang Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

In the gloomy city solemn,
After sounds of the night watch signal and drum,
Strutting out of his abode
The cock crows several times in the cold.

People awakened from their dreams deep,
But none's angry disturbed in their sleep;
They're concerned if the cries at midnight
Came from a house slave treated with spite.

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Frank Yue

Cui Hui's Brushing A Poem On The Door Of A Country-House South Of The Capital ?? ????????

Last year at this door this very day,
On blushed face the fine peach-blossoms portray'd;
Today, you're gone! Where's the pretty face beguiling?
In the Spring breeze, the peach-blossoms are still smiling.

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Frank Yue

Cui Zhao's To The Maid Who Has Been Sold ????????

To The Maid Who Has Been Sold

- by Cui Zhao (Tang Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

After her, sons of high officials are all chasing;
On silk handkerchief the abducted bride`s tears a-falling.
Once inside the mansion, into the deep forever -
Only a total stranger, now her former Lover.

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Frank Yue

Don't Let The Fine Spring And Autumn Days Slip By Again ????????

A Famous Chinese Couplet

- by Sun Xing-yan (1753~1818)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Don't let the fine Spring and Autumn days slip by again;
How joyous when an old friend comes in the wind and rain!

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Frank Yue

Dr Chan Fu-Chat: Follow The Precious Friendship Stream Where We Were Pre-Destined To Meet. ??? ?? ????? ????????

"Now, let's re-live our youthful dreams";

-by Chan Fu-Chat

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Quick, my Classmates, come on -Enroll!
Happiness does not come in rows.
We've been Kingsians for fifty years;
Time ne'er waits -Tomorrow will be here.
Now, let's re-live our youthful dreams -
Follow the precious Friendship Stream
Where we were pre-destined to meet.
With flowers gone, one'll regret indeed!

(2013.09.)

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Frank Yue

Dr Chan Fu-Chat: My Hair Is Now All White And I Don't Care -For The Scenes Before Me Are Just So Fair!??? ????? ??????

"Now, let's re-live our youthful dreams"

-by Chan Fu-Chat

-Translated by Frank C Yue

My hair is now all white and I don't care -

For the scenes before me are just so fair!

When your heart is the Cosmos your body is strong;

Enjoy another "Fifty-Year" that comes along!

(2013.10.02)

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Frank Yue

Dr Chan Fu-Chat: Warming All Mortals' Hearts Are Silver Chains And The Round Jade Plate??? ?????? ?? ?????

"My Feelings at Mid-Autumn Festival" (Poem 4 of 4)

-by Chan Fu-Chat

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Warming all mortals' hearts are silver chains and the round Jade Plate;
Grief, joy, partings and unions are routine and always near.
For fifty centuries, Chang E is lonely (and often in tear):
Wu Gang returning with his axe, no one has seen of late.

(2013.09.20)

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E.T., Come Home!)

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Frank Yue

Dr Chiu Wing-Cheung: Beneath Our Alma Mater Old Fig Tree, Elite Classes Were Held For You And Me. ??? ????? ??????

"Beneath our Alma Mater old fig tree"
-by Winston Chiu Wing-Cheung
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Beneath our Alma Mater old fig tree,
Elite classes were held for you and me.
Fifty years of "heroic deeds" in verse;
The people of Hong Kong we still shall serve.

(2013.10.01)

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Frank Yue

Dr Ernest M S Poon: The Night Wheel Hangs Chaste In The Sky ??? ??????? ????????

"Scene at Mid-Autumn"

(a la "Brother Ka-Wah's" previous poem)

-by Dr Ernest Poon Ming-Sun

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Night Wheel hangs chaste in the sky,
Shining bright, in crisp Autumn air.
All distant trav'lers' hearts are tied
To their villages every-where.
In Hong Kong some guys are pining
For their old classmates returning -
After half a full century,
To renew their friendship warmly.

(2013.09.21)

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Frank Yue

Dr Ernest Poon Ming-Sun: The Night Wheel Hangs Chaste In The Sky???

"Scene at Mid-Autumn"
(a la "Brother Ka-Wah's" previous poem)

-by Ernest Poon Ming-Sun
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Night Wheel hangs chaste in the sky,
Shining bright, in crisp Autumn air.
All distant trav'lers' hearts are tied
To their villages every-where.
In Hong Kong some guys are pining
For their old classmates returning -
After half a full century,
To renew their friendship warmly.

(2013.09.21)

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Frank Yue

Dr Philip Wong Chun-Yip: Since Youth, We Shared The Same School ??? ????? ????? ?????

- by Philip C Y Wong
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Since youth, we shared the same School -
(O Yes, she's a Kingsian, too!)
In the blink of an eye -
White, our youthful hair's dyed!
Let's all seize the moment now;
The past's gone -(just don't ask how)-
Do justice to your dark hair!
(Bygone days won't come back here.)

(2013.09.26)

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Frank Yue

**Drinking Couplet: Over Fine Wine, Meeting A Bosom
Friend - A Thousand Cups Won't Seem Any ??????? ?
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Over fine wine, meeting a bosom friend -
A thousand cups won't seem any.

We're talking, but ain't on the same page, then
A few words would be too many!

Frank Yue

Du Fu Beyond The Border No.7 As Forward Our Horses We Are Urging ?? ????? ??????

Beyond The Border NO.7 (OF 9)

- Du Fu

As forward our horses we are urging
Heavily it snows;
The army is marching
Through mountainous terrain.
The treacherous path winds around cold precipices;
Sometimes, with frozen fingers we grab the icy crevices.

Since we left home it was a long time ago -
When will we finish building
The fort and home be able to go?
The swift clouds are drifting
South when Evening falls,
O! Only if we could grasp them and return home for us all!

(2020.11.15)

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Frank Yue

Du Fu Now Released, What Am I Like Drifting In The Wind? ?? ????? ??????

Lu Yè Shu Huai:

"One Night on My Journey Writing about My Feelings"

-by DU FU(712-770)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Blow'ng gently ashore, the breeze bends small grass in sight;
Sleepless, I'm in a lone boat with tall mast at night.
The vast plain seems much wider beneath the starry dome;
The Moon swims amidst the Great River's watery foam.
Has all my fame solely on all my poems depend'd?
With old age and ill health, all official posts should end.
Now released, what am I like drifting in the wind?
A speck of a sand-gull, between Heav'n and Earth seen!

(2013.09.02)

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Frank Yue

Du Fu The Wind And Frost Appear Arising, From This Spectacular Painting ?? ????? ??????

"Painting of A Falcon"
-Du Fu (Tang Dynasty)

The wind and frost appear arising,
From this spectacular painting
Of a powerful falcon inducing fright
On silk white.
It is posed to pounce
Upon a cunning hare that may be found;
Its stares penetrating
Are the looks of a monkey lamenting.

So real seem the shiny ring and chain,
I could almost have the falcon unchain'd,
Setting it free, and not in vain;
To act on my commands, it I'd train -
But on its perch the fearsome falcon remains.
O, When will the silent fierce raptor,
On the level grasslands, scatter
The common bird's blood and feathers?

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Frank Yue

Du Fu: Bidding High Official Zhao Farewell

Bidding High Official Zhao Farewell

On the Yangguan road,
To the West for thousands of miles stretching,
Not a single soul is seen returning;
As Autumn takes its toll,
Only the wild geese by the river-side
To the South are preparing to fly.

Frank Yue

Du Fu: Campaign After Campaign, Here Come Captives More And More ?? ?????

"After Peace Returns to the Frontier"

Poem No.4 (of 5)

- by DU FU (712-770)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Campaign after campaign, here come captives more and more;
At the two western Vassal States, now there is no war.
At the frontier land where the brave and victorious stay,
Happy drums and wind instruments are heard night and day.
Boats bearing grains from Bo Hai go there, busy as ever;
Resources are stockpiled at places south of the River.
Dress for ev'n servants and slaves is made of linen and silk fine;
The haughty lord just ignores the Capital, his rank raised high!
They dare not report him, people of the districts new and wild -
At the wide cross roads, those who reported him were led to die!

(2013.09.02)

victory

war and peace

frontiers

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Frank Yue

Du Fu: I Came From A Decent Family ?? ????? ??????

I came from a decent family;
Many times I have served my country.
But our Commander was arrogant,
Greedy and unworthy.
Promotions just passed me by.
Galloping on war horses for twenty years,
I believe I have faithfully done my duty.

I see on the Central Plain
The havoc wrought by the Eastern Invaders;
This gives me great pain.
Then, by a lonely track one night,
I returned to my empty village that's in terrible plight
No one can say a coward am I -
But, poor and old, I have not a son or grandson by my side.

(22.11.15

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Frank Yue

Du Fu: O How Should I Describe Taishan To You? ?? ? ???????????

Viewing Mount Taishan) (No.1 of 3)

- by Du Fu (712—770)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

O How Should I describe Taishan to you?

The green mountain that divides Qi and Lu.

Creation gathers here such wondrous sights;

The Mount just severs the shades from the lights.

I heave m'chest, layers of white clouds creating;

I split m'eye sockets, home-bound birds admitting.

Up to the very top I should climb one day -

And leave all other summits behind on my way!

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Frank Yue

Du Fu: The Conscripting Officers At Shihao ?? ????? ?? ???

- Du Fu (Tang Dynasty)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

I came to Shihao Village in the evening;
An official with a press-gang barged in at night.
An old man scrambled over the wall and took flight!
His wife opened the door to see what was happening.
The officers were shouting, swearing angrily;
Aggrieved, the old woman cried bitterly -
Taken as soldiers, you see,
Were all my sons three -
At Yecheng: One of them wrote to me
And said two of his brothers were killed recently.
The survivors tried their best to live on,
Whilst dead men were long gone.

In this house there's no one except my baby
Grandson suckled by his mother only;
She doesn't even have enough clothing to cover herself!
Now, though I am a weak woman old,
Take me with you tonight, so
I can cook breakfast for the troops
At the Heyang battleground.
As the night wore on, the sound
Of voices faded away,
But low sobbing seemed to stay.
At daybreak, I rose to continue on my journey;
There to say farewell was the old man only.

(2020.11.11 - on Canada's Remembrance Day)

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Frank Yue

Du Fu: The Lone Goose Wild Calling For His Friends, He Cries ?? ????? ??????

The lone goose wild
Calling for his friends, he cries,
Full of sorrow, to eat or drink he's lost the urge.
This tiny piece of shadow slight -
Who would pity him in long flight?
For his companions, he has to search and search
Through thousand layers upon layers of cloud.

He strains his eye to see -
In the distance somewhere they must be!
He cries and cries,
And hush, is there a faint reply?
His mournful cries loud
Has disturbed the country crows sleepy,
Confused, they join in the row noisy.

(2020.11.15)

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Frank Yue

Du Fu: Wines And Foods Gone Bad Are Rotting - The Crimson Doors Behind ?? ????????????

Words excerpted from "From Chang'an to Fèng Xian" Poem
-by DU FU(712-770)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Wines and foods gone bad are rotting -
the crimson doors behind;
There are corpses, people frozen to death,
by the wayside!
I'm ashamed to be the father with such
grievous grief -
He was unable to feed his young son to
let him live!

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Frank Yue

Du Fu's "Face-To-Face With A Sonwfall";

On the battlefields many new ghosts a-weeping,
Alone, reciting verses, I'm an old man lamenting;
In the sky at dusk the clouds press down low,
Whilst the gloom closes in slow.
From several districts there's no news lately,
Seated with no letters, I'm saddened immensely.

Frank Yue

Du Fu's Climbing On High ??????? ???????

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The wind gusting in the skies high and wide,
While sadly the gibbons cry;
The clear water flows over the sandbars white,
Flocks of seagulls circling in flight.
The boundless deciduous trees
Gloomily, gloomily their leaves a-shredding;
The never-ending great Yangtze
Towards me keeps rolling, a-rolling.

When Autumn flings its Sorrow far and wide
Often I'm travelling from there to here;
Sick for many, many a year,
Alone, I climb the terrace high.
Life is unforgiving, grief and "not fine"-
My sideburns are now gray and frosty.
And I'm down, burdened by frailty,
Have just stopped having my cups of unfiltered wine.

(2013.09.28)

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Frank Yue

Du Fu's On Watching The Sword Dance By A Disciple Of Dame Gongsun ?? ????????????

JIAN QI XING:

On Watching The Sword Dance by A Disciple of Dame Gongsun

- by Du Fu (712-770)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

There was a pretty woman named Gongsun in the years past;
When she did her Sword Dance the effects were striking and vast.
Like still mountains, all spectators were spellbound, petrified;
It seemed Heav'n and Earth with her ev'ry move were unified,
So dazzling and bright as down the 'Nine Suns' Hou Yi shot -
O Mighty and fast as the Gods rode their dragon-chariots!
As she lept up, like an angry thunder-bolt, the Dance began;
Like frozen green waves, the cool blade was ev'rywhere
at the end.

Long ago, the Master's dancing sleeves and songs fell silent;
Of late, she still has a fine disciple with great talent.
At Bai Di City -a fair lady from Linying was there;
Her songs and dance (in battle attire)were beyond compare.
She answers my questions: Now I know the wherefores and why;
Sadly, lamenting the great changes, one could always cry.
The late Emp'ror had eight thousand ladies (and no less) :
All the time, among them Dame Gongsun's Sword Dance was the best!

Just like the turning of one's palm, fifty years have gone,
And so has the Old Court as ceaselessly Time marches on.
Like smokes, disbanded, the Pear Garden members disappear'd;
In failing sunlight, the Master's disciple is still here.
Around the great Emperor's mausoleum, now grown are all the trees;
At Qutang, the city's a shadow of what it used to be.
The sumptuous feasts, joyous music, songs and dances had ceased;
Ecstasy! Then come great sorrows and the Moon in the east.

When dinner is over, I know not where I shall wander;
My sad, corn-covered feet will carry me to the hills yonder.

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Frank Yue

Du Mu: At Yangzhou I Slumbered And Dreamed On, Whilst Ten Precious Years Have Gone!?? ??????? ?????? ??

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Expressing My Sentiments
- Du Mu (Tang Dynasty)

Down in my luck and fuelled by wine,
South of the River I travelled by;
The slim, small-waisted lady
Could dance on your palm deftly.

At Yangzhou I slumbered and dreamed on
Whilst ten precious years have gone!
Have I made a name for myself really?
The fickle who frequented the Green Houses bawdy!

(2020.11.13
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Frank Yue

Du Mu: Beyond The Frosted Trees Leans The Mansion High ?? ??????????

Cháng'an Qiu Wàng:

"VIEWING AUTUMN SCENERY AT CHANG'AN"

-by DU MU (803 - 852)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Beyond the frosted trees leans the mansion high,
Not a cloud-hair in the clear-mirror Sky,
While the Southern Mountain and the Autumn hues -
Both compete to yield the best majestic views.

(2013.10.17)

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Frank Yue

Du Mu: Too Much Love Always Seems To Be Loveless

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Farewell Poem II

- Du Mu

- Translated by Frank C Yue

"Too Much Love" always seems to be Loveless;
Even the finest wine finds us "smile-less".
Teardrops falling for Lovers who must part,
Cries until Dawn, the candle-with-a-heart.

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Frank Yue

Du Mu's Autumn Night ?? ??????? ????????

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Like the silvery candle light,
Her painted screen is awash'd with cool moonlight;
With a soft silk fan tiny,
A young woman tries swatting the flying fireflies shiny.

Cool like water is the night scene -
Lying on the courtyard serene,
She gazes at the Buffalo Boy and Weaver Girl stars,
Twinkling high in the clear skies afar.

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Frank Yue

Emperor Kang Xi: On The Holy Cross The Father's Will's ????? ???????

ODE TO THE CROSS

(aka "THE DEATH OF CHRIST")

-by Qing Emperor Kang Xi:

Ai Xin Jiao Luo Xuan Ye(1662-1772)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

On the Holy Cross the Father's will's done;

Like a stream of Life, flows Christ's blood
precious.

From the West, come Heav'nly blessings
gracious,
As deep as hundreds of feet, through the
Son.

Subjected to four biased judgment
'round midnight -
(Most of His disciples take flight) ,

Poor Peter denies Him thrice

Before the rooster crows twice.

Five thousand lashes of the cat-o-nine-
tails

Rip open every inch of His skin frail.

Beside two bandits, He was hung up six
feet high -

His piteous sufferings make all His
people cry.

Once He has uttered the sentences seven,

Myriad souls in pain and thankfulness
wail towards He'ven.

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Frank Yue

Exploded- Character Chinese Couplet: This Kind Of Wood Is Fire-Wood ??????? ???????

- by Anon

- Translated by Frank C Yue

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(Version 'A')

This kind of wood is fire-wood;
They are produced in many mountains.

Where there is smoke there is fire;
The ev'ning chimneys become smoke fountains.

(Version 'B': literal translation)

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'THIS WOOD' makes very good 'FIRE-WOOD';

It's produced in 'HILLS-UPON-HILLS'.

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'SMOKES, FROM FIRES' on chimney-tops stood';

'EV'NING-UPON-EV'NING' there are 'MORE' still.

Frank Yue

Forever Eating Rotten Pears! ??????? ??????? ??????

One would eat the bad pear and let the good ones rot instead,
And why should one keep the good ones and eat those turning bad?
O Mine, O Dear -
Forever eating rotten pears!

-translated from a Chinese Couplet by Anon:

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Frank Yue

Funeral Couplet ?????????? ? ????????? ?????????

Funeral Couplet for Xu Xílín, Martyred Freedom-Fighter of the Pre-1911
Revolution in China

-by Dr. Sun Yat-Sen (1866 - 1925)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

A dot of Crimson Heart for all -
Offer'd at the old crumbling Qing Altar;
His pure white bones, three years after
Dyin', shall smell of great fragrance fore'er-more!

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Frank Yue

Funny "Palindrome-Riddle Couplet "?? " ?????????? ?????????? ?????????? ??????????

A Funny "Palindrome-Riddle Couplet"
- (in Chinese and English) by Frank C Yue

Out-out in-in, in-in out-out;
More out more in, more in more out!
"What is this all about, really? "
A Traffic Report on The Thunnel, merely!

Deep-deep shallow-shallow, shallow- shallow deep-deep;
Go deep, go shallow, go shallow, go deep!
"What is this all about, really? "
Some Rookie Divers in Training, merely!

(Of course, there is a variety of other possible interpretations... just let your imagination soar! The sky's the limit.)

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Frank Yue

Funny Couplet: Have Bun After Bun, They're Yummy; Surely You Will Have A Full Tummy ?????? ??????

"Reverse Exploded Character" Chinese Couplet

-by Anon

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Have bun after bun, they're yummy;
Surely you will have a full tummy.

Have robe after robe, they're in vogue,
And you will have a full ward-robe.

(2013.09.10)

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Frank Yue

Funny Couplet: On His Father's Shoulders, A "Horse" The Young Son's Riding ??? ????? ? ???

Funny Couplet

- (Allegedly) by (a youthful)Lín ZéXú

- Translated by Frank C Yue

On his father's shoulders, a "horse" the young son's riding;

The father wishes his son would become a "dragon",,
the skies ascending.

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Frank Yue

Funny Couplet: ?????????????? ??????????????

"Word-Building" Chinese Couplet

(Allegedly composed)

-by Emperor Ganlong and Ji Xiaolan

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Ten men (-out of ten
From home far apart)
In their field of heart,
Always think of their loved ones:
Their parents, wife and sons!

This commoner
Of lowly birth
Wants to say "Thanks!" -Thanks to Heav'n,
Thanks to the Earth,
Thanks to the Ruler!

(2013.10.10)

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Frank Yue

Funny Couplets: Busy For Fame, Busy For Profit, Now Take A Rest -Have A Cup Of Hot Tea.???,???,????,???

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FUNNY COUPLET (at an old Canton Restaurant)

-by Anon

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Busy for fame, busy for profit,
Now take a rest -Have a cup of hot tea.

Brain-racking is hard, labour is hard,
Joy 'midst hardship -A jug of wine for me.

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Frank Yue

Get-Well Soon Couplet: Roland Pong - I Just Have My Leg Repaired To Keep A Healthy Body ????????

Get-Well Soon Couplet

- by Roland Pong

Wish you a very speedy recovery!

Best regards,

Roland

I just have my leg repaired to keep a healthy body,
Fervently seeking peace, joy and the heart of a baby.

(Thank you, Roland, for the fine couplet. i'm already on the mend.)

(2016.04.17)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: Searching For My Fair I Go A-Boating ? ? ??????? ? ???????

Searching for My Fair No.1 (of 2)

-- by Golden Bow

-- Translated by Frank C Yue

Searching for My Fair I go a-boating,
Visiting fine scenes e'erywhere;
I let the boat freely floating,
In leisure, sailing here and there?

Passing the Bridge Blue,
The Spring water a-lapping;
Catching a glimpse of YOU--
For a moment my heart stopping?

(2016.05.02)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: A Great Light Of Righteousness shot Through Black Clouds And Shook The Skies! ?????? ??? ?

TUNE: "Waves Scouring Sands" Ci

TITLE: The Students Movement

- by ?? 'Golden Bow'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

A great Light of Righteousness

Shot through Black Clouds and shook the Skies!

The Students' Resolve (and Sacrifice)

No less hard than the finest steel.

At the forefront, the youthful guys:

Their Basic Rights no one can deny!

In Rain the Umbrellas are up still -

The Young Ones ever so Fearless!

Truthfully, passionately speaking,

Tricks, half-truths and lies rebuking;

Dauntlessly debated

Officials half-muted:

(O, Why? Why is this so, why?)

Justice just stands on their side!

As always, one must have A Say in one's Fate;

They're writing their Journal for a Bright New Day!

(2014.10.26)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: Among The Flowers Playing, And In The Light Breeze Dancing ?? ??????? ??????? ??????? ???

`Question for Zhuangtze`
-by Golden Bow
-Translatedby Frank C Yue

Among the flowers playing,
And in the light breeze dancing -
Living in this world secular,
One has to learn to bow and bend.
Butterflies might turn into men
And vice versa.
Each of the new-dream scene,
Ne`er before you`d have seen.

(2016.06.02)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: At Crowded Admiralty, In The Year Of Jiawu, A Sea Of 'Umbrella-Bells' Is Ringing ?? ????? ??????

TUNE: 'The Fortune-Teller' Ci
TITLE: Occupy Central District (in Hong Kong)
-by ?? 'Golden Bow'
-Translated by Frank C Yue

At crowded Admiralty,

In the year of Jiawu, a sea

Of 'umbrella-bells' is ringing.

In peaceful Civil Disobedience

The Students are all striving

For (the promised) Democracy!

To find Liberty, asking the Way

In front of a Tyranny -

Of the Winds and Rains who'd be afraid?

Into Vitality changing Youth -

With adorable Gallantry

The Students open up a Path Truth.

Their Righteousness shoots high

Up the all-seeing Sky,

Turns into a white 'Rainbow Glory',

Writing up a new page of History!

(2014.12.24)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: At Sunset The Sky Is Red, The Water Is Red ?? ??????? ????????

"Lake and Mountain in the Setting Sun"

-by Golden Bow

-Translated by Frank C Yue

At sunset the sky is red,
The water is red.
The lone peak, and image inverted seen -
Out of focus they seem.
The pavilion by the lake,
And the mountain pagoda
Far away, face each other.
We`re bathed in ecstasy
In the gentle Spring breeze.

(22016.05.18)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: Bored, I Raise My Bow Strong - Then All The Birds Fly Away ?? ??????? ????????

"Teasing Myself"

-by Golden Bow

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Bored, I raise my bow strong -
Then all the birds fly away;
With the white clouds they drift along,
I expect them to behave this way.

After watching the Dragon Boats race,
Some sticky-rice dumpling I'll taste:
Not caring for the days of old,
Who's right, who's wrong -as it is told.

(2016.06.11)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: Early Summer Is Fabulous ?? ??? ??????

TUNE: "Dreaming of Jiangnan" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "Early Summer"

-by Golden Bow

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Early Summer is fabulous,
Better than the red in late Spring.
Loud cicadas in the trees
And the birds merrily sing.
Dancing and diving among the flow`rs glamorous -
Butterflies are playful, and bees, busy.
They are all so happy!

(2016.05.17)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: In M'dream To Fairyland Returning, But The Dream's A-Fading ?? ??????? ????????

Searching for My Fair No.2 (of 2)

-- by Golden Bow

-- Translated by Frank C Yue

In m'dream to Fairyland returning,
But the dream's a-fading;
The Pretty Virgin smiling
At the bridgehead there standing.

She is most adoring!
But unsure, with shy behaviour
To invite her, not daring,
To go sight-seeing together.

(2016.05.02)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow: Though With Her Cut Off Were My Ties, My Love For Her Shall Never Die ?? ????????????

"Wujue: Searching for the Plum Blossoms"

- by Golden Bow

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Though with her cut off were my ties,

My love for her shall never die.

I shall search and seek and woo her again -

Through sleet and snow my quest shan't be in vain.

(2016.11.28)

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Frank Yue

Golden Bow:After Many A Search And Seeking ?? ???? ???,?????????

The Blue Bridge Dream
-by Golden Bow
-Translated by Frank C Yue

After many a search and seeking,
I am still without a life-long mate;
In Heaven happy marriage is made,
It's not working, the self-match-making.

The jade Pestle has been for years
Seeking the right jade Mortar;
But not quite up to the standards high,
It's a "No go!" though hard I did try.

(2016.05.10)

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Frank Yue

Gong Tingxian's Health Cultivation And Maintenance Poem ??? ????????

Health Cultivation and Maintenance Poem

- by Gong Tingxian (1522~1619)(Ming Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Treasure your Qi and Essence, cultivate Positive Attitude,
Curb deep thoughts, burning desires, and burden your mind less still.
When eating you should only fill up your stomach half-way,
Over you, never let exotic flavours hold sway.
Seventy-percent sober you should remain -drink mindfully,
Never drink too much and only drink occasionally.

Ne'er too seriously take e'erything,
For jokes let hearty laughter take wing.
Go with Joy and Pleasure always,
Don't let Anger ruin your days.
Let Frown'd Brows, Cold Shoulders pass by,
For the Changes and Frauds, don't ask why.

I'll continue -to myself true -
O'er a hundred Springs, treading through.

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Frank Yue

Good-Bye, My 7-Minute Friend! (5 Of 5)

"Good-bye, My 7-Minute Friend! "
- A True Life Story by Frank C Yue

This poem is the final chapter in the series -

1. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man:(1 Of 5):
2. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man:(2 Of 5):
3. Come, And Show Yourself If You Can, Mr. Chan -
My Old '3-Legged' Friend!(3 of 5):
4. Mr. Chan Is My Inspiration, I've Re-Affirmed
My Resolution(4 Of 4)
5. Good-bye, My 7-Minute Friend!(5 Of 5)

Good-bye, my 7-minute Friend!
Of yourself take care.
You - I should dare,
To do "Zhan Zhuang" each day, till we meet again!

At the Baptist U Chinese Medicine Clinic waiting room,
On some faces an air of Hope prevails than just Gloom.
I notice the crowd's much bigger than usual today;
They're here for moxibustion to keep their healthy way.

While waiting for my friend (who's in the ladies' room) , I stand
Near the pharmacy and hold a "taiji ball" in my hands.
To stand "like a stake" behind the seated crowd I thought it's 'safe';
Still, a middle-age patient steals curious glances this way.

On an extra chair placed at the corner, the man's sitting;
From the looks on his face, I know he knows what I'm doing.
I approach him and ask, Want to learn some simple qigong?
His reply: "Why? I'm busy. Don't have the time, I don't..."

Most guys don't realise the flowing 'life-energy' in the body
Can be trained and strengthened for our good, and it's quite easy.
But one has to be persistent and do it every day!
Don't go overboard, on a healthy path you'll be on your way.

Here, just show me your hand, please.
Without touching, I put mine above his.
Your hand radiates heat, is very warm:
Your blood qi circulation's still quite strong.

Now, rub your hands vigorously, man -
Relax, let your palms face each other then.
Between your hands, in the space small,
Could you feel anything at all?

"Nooo! There's nothing. Nothing at all... No! "
Don't give up! Rub your hands more, and more,
To boost up your life-energy flow.
Right! Try it again, now, as before.

"Funny! Something's 'pulling' between my hands."
That's your own qi,
Your vital energy!
Now, nourish your qi,
For a healthier "Me"!

With your feet shoulder-width apart (like so)- Just stand...!
"I can feel the 'wind' coming from your hand...! "
That's energy sent from mine, so more on qi you'd understand.
But ne'er do this you'self, do you comprehend?

Smiling, the man asks me to teach him "standing like a tree".
My friend will be out, and we'll have only a few minutes more.
(We have another engagement, soon we will have to leave.)
He then remembers: "O! My Cousin once taught me this before! "

"Years ago, he was weak and suffered from some severe pain.
Someone taught him this very simple technique;
After training and months later - it's so neat!
My Cousin's not just pain-free, but can lift weights again."

"When I tried this years ago I used to sweat quite a lot,
And, also, my inside quickly became quite hot."
Congratulations! These indeed are very good signs.
Your body's healing itself! ! But you stopped long ago -Why?

He just shrugs his shoulders and gives me no reply.
Having been there m'self, I know how enthusiasm died...
(My friend comes out refreshed and it's time to say Good-bye.)
Find your Cousin! Do it each day and 'Never Say Die'!

I wasn't talking here to you without a reason good;
Be accountable for your actions or non-actions, you should.
If you choose not to do anything, just rub your hands each day!
That's the least you should do to help yourself in a small way.

On my way out -I look at my watch,7 minutes gone;
I see the man's still standing, "wuji" style, with a broad smile.
Keep on standing... by other distractions don't be beguiled.
From here, you have a long way to go -Standing, just keep on...

Be persevering, my 7-minute Friend!
You'll be better if we e'er meet again.
(From each other, as we part
I say a prayer for him in my heart.)

A Word of Caution:

Doing "Zhan Zhuang", a passive, mindless form of very powerful martial arts as well as internal-energy training technique, is usually quite safe. However, beginners should be fore-warned that even at the beginner's level one might be drawn, on very rare occasions, unknowingly to the supernatural, if one is not careful and too eager to obtain extraordinary results within a short period of time.

There are basic "Do's and Don't's". Do not try to practise just on your own. You should learn the basics and start practising in a proper class or small group under the guidance and instructions of a competent and qualified teacher or sifu.

At a certain stage when you can feel your energy in your hands, don't try to project it 'll simply loose your qi and it would be detrimental to your well-being. (Transmitting qi takes years and years of learning and practice. Before you reach that stage, you must be able to regularly replenish and strengthen your own energy.)

In reality,
Who will, who may, who can, who would,
Who shall, who might, who should, who could
Write such a trivial thing
Like the above happening?
-O Probably, no one but me!
(Just don't take this too seriously.)

The above short true-story, as told, does not of course cover everything that transpired in the clinic that morning. In fact -

1. The man did tell me his family name (towards the end, for he knew I know something and was there to try to help him) . He is Mr. Lau; we spoke in Cantonese. He asked for mine. My reply: My name's not important. What I'm going to tell you and show you in person is.
2. Why was I so keen to grab his attention (-transmitting in public my own precious energy to force open, time and again, his 'slumbering' palm-centre acupoints -) and teach him the simple but v powerful and effective "standing like a stake" qigong? Because... he's a rather sick man. He badly needed to learn the technique to boost up his already weakened, damaged lung functions and immunity system...
3. When I walked towards Mr. Lau and breached his personal space (of about 3 feet in radius)I was at once attacked by a v strong, pungent odour and a wave of highly toxic (though invisible)tobacco smoke that surrenders him all the time! It doesn't take a Sherlock Holmes to guess that he must be a chain smoker for many years and he was coughing, too, rather badly!
4. So, my first words to him were: You should really cut down on your smokes! But I could almost see the words come out straight from his other ear. He had hardened his heart for all advice given on this particular issue.
5. My 7-minute friend had wanted to exchange phone numbers to follow-up. I told him somewhat apologetically I won't be sticking around for long; as a visitor, I'll be flying out of the city. I simply bounced the ball back to his court and his Zhan Zhuang practising Cousin.
6. I was glad the 'primer' qi I sent him resonated with his, giving him a strong motive to get himself re-acquainted with Zhan Zhuang. With perseverance, sustained efforts and regular practice, this will bring out his full potential

physically and mentally and be beneficial for his health.

Frank Yue

Gu Kuang: Once Admitted, Pretty Maidens Are Under Life House-Arrest ?? ??????? ????????

GONG CI:

"Palace Song";

-by GU KUANG (727—815?)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Chang Le Palace adjoins the vast Royal Spring Forest;
Music and new lewd songs fill the jade mansions and golden halls.
Once admitted, pretty maidens are under life house-arrest;
Only kingly nightingales can scale and fly o'er the high walls.

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Frank Yue

Guo Moruo: As Fuel For Cooking The Beans, Dried Beanstalks Were Burned ?????????? ??????

FAN QI BU SHI: XIONG DI:

"ANTI-7-PACE-COMPOSED POEM: BROTHERS"

-Guo Moruo (1892 - 1978)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

As fuel for cooking the beans, dried beanstalks were burned;
The beans were being cooked, into ash the beanstalks, turned.
The beans became a delicious dish for the table,
And the ash, fertiliser for the crop staple.
Why the stalks ignored their and the beans' mutual root,
And willingly bent on their self-destruction route?

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Frank Yue

He Acted, As He Was Gaily Dancing, Like A Fool, His Haughtiness Grooming.???? ??????

He acted, as he was gaily dancing,
Like a fool, his haughtiness grooming.
In the Spring breeze his colourful dress did float;
His old parents were laughing,
Filled by happiness the house whole.

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Frank Yue

He Sin 's On The Traveller's Mind A Hundred Thoughts Dwell ?? ????? ??????

"Seeing You Off"

-by He Sin (North and South Dynasties)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

On the traveller's mind a hundred thoughts dwell,
He'll go on thousands of miles all by himself.
The river is all gray, the rains a-coming;
With whitehead waves, the winds are arising.

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Frank Yue

He Zhizhang: I Come Home An Old Man; I Was Young When I Went Away ??? : ??????? ????????

Huí Xiang Ou Shu No.1 (of 2) :

"Returning to My Village and Writing Casually":

-by HE ZHIZHANG (659-744?)-Translated by Frank C Yue I come home an old man; I was young when I went away.

My accent has not changed at all but my hair is now gray.

I meet some village children; of course none of them knows me.

Smiling ever so sweetly, they ask me,"From where came thee? "

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Frank Yue

He Zhizhang: I Was Away From My Home-Town For Many A Decade ??? ?????? ????????

Huí Xiang Ou ShuNo.2 (of 2) :

Returning to My Village and Writing Casually: No.2 (of 2)

- by HE ZHIZHANG (659-744?)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

I was away from my home-town for many a decade;
Half of m'friends, familiar things have gone, I find of late.
Only the water of Mirror Lake, in front of my door,
Unchanged by the Spring Breeze -its waves remain just like before.

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Frank Yue

Henry K H Woo: "After The Flowers' Demise, On The Sentiments Still Linger" ??? ?????

"No Title";

- Henry K H Woo

- Translated by Frank C Yue

After the flowers' demise, on the sentiments still linger;
While the water's flowing free, the Hatred roots down deeper.
Alone, I caress a lapful of the crystal moonlight,
Who'd think of the old woods now that the birds have taken flight?
In this whole wide world nothing remains the same, my friend -
I sigh and sigh as my journey leads to a dead end.
After chasing my surreal Yangzhou dream for ten years,
My lapels are all soaked up with hidden tears.

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Frank Yue

Hiu Ping-Hoo: In Our Youth, My Classmates And I Loudly Together Used To Sing -??? ?????? ????? ??????

REUNION

-by Chiu Ping-Hoo

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In our youth, my Classmates and I
Loudly together used to sing -
The School bricks are red,
The mid-levels skies,
Are O so blue.
(Today, they're the same hues, too.)
Of staying at one place, post-parting, instead,
Each chased after his own dream and Brighter Spring.

Fifty years later,
We are all scatter'd
Between the West and East.
(O Will the strives e'er cease?)
Re-uniting in Hong Kong soon,
We will talk of the past blue Moons.
Luckily, the surviving Warriors' hopes are not in vain -
Come November, old friends and brave comrades will meet again!

(2013.10.01)

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Frank Yue

How Time Does Fly, It Just Leaves Us Behind ????????

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(Chinese and English Poems by Frank C Yue)

"How Time does fly, it just leaves us behind"

How Time does fly, it just leaves us behind;
Like space shuttles, each chased after his dream.
After leaving King's College, we find
Our black hair is now a silvery stream.
Fifty years -we've toiled and turned the world "upside down";
Polished, the rough stone's the brightest jewel in the crown!
O Such an elaborate dream life seems to be;
Following my dreams in sleep makes a "misty me".

(2013.09.27)

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Frank Yue

Huang Zhongze: As An Immortal Or A Buddha, I'm Not Known ??? ??????? ????????

"Miscellaneous Sentiments"

- Huang Zhongze (Qing Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

As an Immortal or a Buddha, I'm not known,
So I can only scream aloud at night alone;
They are all down and out - nine out of ten guys,
The Scholar, just a good-for-nothing passer-by.

Drifting in the wind, no two puffy seeds the same -
Smeared in mud and catkin is my fickle name.
Books, poetry shouldn't turn you into a sad thing -
Spring birds and Autumn insects spontaneously sing!

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Frank Yue

I Dropped The Lobster Traps On The Sea Bed, For Them To Crawl In, The Lobsters Red ?????? ??????

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Lobster Lunch

-by J (then 11 years old) ,

written on June 26,2014 near Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia.

I dropped the lobster traps on the sea bed,
For them to crawl in, the lobsters red.
On the spike I put on fish as bait,
I took the boat back to wait and wait.
Then I checked the traps for lobsters before lunch;
O It's so delicious, munch! munch! munch!

(2014.04.26)

Frank Yue

I Just Barely Escape The Stealth Tiger's Sharp Claws By Wedging Myself Right Behind My Aching Jaws 2 Of 2

A SURREAL ANATOMICAL ODYSSEY: ...2 of 2

- by Frank C Yue

(Sequel to:

"Climbing ACHILLES HEELS there's one thing on MY MIND -" 1 of 2)

I just barely escape the stealth tiger's sharp claws

By wedging myself right behind my ACHING JAWS.

With one clean stroke of my razor-shape SHOULD BLADE

I cut from the jungle the towering TRUNK away:

To build floating crimson VESSELS OF THE BLOOD

To cross the many seething rivers of flood!

I seek high, I seek low, beyond the FOOT'S ARCH, behold -

Above the HIGH BROW's ridge, below the NOSE'S BRIDGE.

Alas! Both the bright ALL-SEEING EYES OF MY FOOT

Are often blind-folded by my very own boot.

Many nights, I spend in THE CHAMBERS OF THE HEART -

They are not gold! -meditating before the next start.

Trekking up the deep, steep luxuriant valley,
I edge round the angry, roaring FIRE IN THE BELLY.
A careful search of THE TWIN TEMPLES OF THE HEAD
Yields virtually nothing except TINGLING CHEEKS IN HAND.

All that matters in this life transient is not wealth,
But truth, faith, hope, love, duty, gratefulness and health.
Unlike worldly pursuits, figments of THE MIND,
"Ask, and you will receive, seek, and you will find."

(2013.10.21)

(- The End)

Frank Yue

If Life Were Only Just Like When We Two Met The First Time ????? ?????? ????????

A translation of a very famous and popular Qing ci (long and short verse)

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TUNE: Mù Lán Hua Lìng "Lily Magnolia Ci"
TITLE: Ni Gu Jué Jué Cí "Imitating an Old Final Farewell Song"
- by Nàlán Xìngdé(1655~1685)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

If life were only just like when we two met the first time,
For the forsaken, painted fan Autumn wind would not sigh!
The average one somehow became the heart of an old friend;
But it is easy to change - the heart of the old friend then.

After sweet whispers at Li Shan Palace, dawn was breaking;
No regrets - though carriage bells tinkling, like rain tears falling.
Now, Who's that forgetful, ungrateful man in fine clothes dress't?
Our vow was to grow old in a linked-branch, to fly abreast!

Frank Yue

If The Day Dawns Without Me, My Love ????????

IF THE DAY DAWNS WITHOUT ME, MY LOVE

- by Frank C Yue

If the day dawns without me, My Love,
You know we are still deeply in love.
Though you can't see me, feel m'emotions,
We're just in different dimensions.
No need to look for me far and near,
In spirit with you, I'm still here.

I don't want to see your teary eyes,
Get used to my "absence", by and by.
No need, M'Dear, to cry me a river,
Here for you, I stand on guard fore'er.
You know how much I do love you,
Though I never said so enough too!

If the day dawns without me, My Love,
Just carry on with your daily stuff;
As we go forth, though not together,
In time we'll again see each other.
When you think of me, I think of you,
I am here with you: believe this too.

I'm glad we've done our basic duties,
The children and grand kids are beauties.
Where'er we may be, we're connected -
Live grateful, healthy, free, contented.
Be calm, be peaceful, be worry-free,
For your sake and your loved ones, be happy!

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Frank Yue

I'll Be Seeing You Again, Mr. Punchman, Come Shine Or Rain! (2 Of 4)

This poem is the final chapter in the following:

1. A Winning Self-Defence Strategy. (1 Of 4)
2. I'll Be Seeing You, Mr Punchman, Come Shine Or Rain! (2 Of 4)
3. An Encounter With Merpati Putih on the MS Oosterdam. (3 Of 4)
4. Yue's (THE FOOL'S)SELF-DEFENCE GUIDELINE. (4 Of 4)

I'll be seeing you again, Mr. Punchman, come shine or rain!

Recently, I have a new companion

Inside the Exercise Room of my Condo Apartment

Where for at least ninety minutes each week I train.

Mr. Punchman is a mute and deaf manikin -

Made of strong plastic with durable foam inside,

Whom I can punch as hard as I can,

Using only my bare hands.

A punching bag, atop a free-standing base,

Which I filled up with heavy gravel:

So, when punched, 'cross the floor it won't travel;

To add some colour, I painted up Mr. Punchman's face.

Mr. Punchman is about five to six feet tall,

His height is adjustable to suit users all.

He has a head, torso, but no arms;

He can't punch back and can cause no one any harm!

I clad Mr. Punchman in an orange T-shirt then -

You don't mind my kneeling and kicking you?

Or giving you finger-jabs, rapid punches, one and two?

O Mr. Punchman, you're so accommodating, Thank YOU!

(....)See An Encounter with Merpati Puhti.

Frank Yue

In Praise Of Last-Minute Cruises (1 Of 3)

This poem is the first chapter in the following:

1. In Praise Of Last-Minute Cruises (1 Of 3)
2. Where are you, my sweet little Plump Plum? (2 Of 3)
3. An Encounter with Merpati Putih on the MS Oosterdam (3 Of 3)

"Good morning! " - Good morning.
"Some coffee or tea? "
Thank you, no ice water for us.
We'd like hot water, please,
With green tea.
Cold water is no good for seniors, you see.
This is Traditional Chinese Medicine thinking:
Your vital core temperature cold water keeps lowering.

As long-time retirees, my wife and I
Would always try
To hunt for bargain cruises
Whenever the opportunity arises.
If you are ready to go any day,
Pleasant surprises may come your way -
Like, for last-minute sailings,
You may enjoy half-price savings!

Some inexpensive offering:
The annual re-positioning -
Ships move from the Caribbean
To the Mediterranean
In April, then in October
It's vice versa.
The 14-day trans-Atlantic crossing,
Though, might give you a little tossing -

Then with only four ports of call,
There are eight sea days in all.
On a cruise ship pampered are you -

The steward makes up the bed for you;
Like, for breakfast, you just choose from a comprehensive menu.
In the dining room, the goodies are of course bought to you,
Unlike the Lido market where
You'd line up and pick your own food here and there.

On the 17 day San Diego-Honolulu cruise,
For my wife and I,
It's a shopping tour, things to buy:
Walmart provides free shuttle from the terminal
To its two stores at Honolulu and Hilo,
Where there is also free wifi.
Visiting the world's largest active volcano is not our plan,
Helicopter rides my wife just can't stand.

Out-going and homeward flights -
Sometimes pose a problem they might.
To play it safe, you should usually
Arrive at the port of embarking
One day before the date of sailing.
Or to save money if your budget's really tight,
You may consider spending
At the destination's airport the night.

It's quite ironic
That the most requested song
On cruises is "The Titanic",
And enchanted passengers
Would always sing along!
Some people like the cruises so much they simply
Book their sailings back to back -
Of easy life that would be a hack.

(2019.10.22)

Frank Yue

In Spring Blooming Are Hundreds Of Fine Flowers ??? ????

- Author Unknown

In Spring blooming are hundreds of fine flowers,
In Autumn the bright Moon is gleaming.
In Summer breezes blowing everywhere,
And in Winter white snow may be falling.
If on your mind there's not a single care,
Then for you this will be your finest hour.

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Frank Yue

Ip Man Couplet Living In This Secular World Take As Your Model Fine Trees ?? ?????????????? ??????????????

Couplet by Ip Man (Ye Wen) ,
Wing Chun Grandmaster
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Living in this secular world, take as your model Fine Trees;
With strong and deep roots, let the branches and leaves sway with the breeze.

The shape of an Old Coin, one's attitude in life should follow -
The outside edge should be round, and the inside, square and hollow.

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Frank Yue

It's No Good Play When You're Growing Old

Past your prime? You don't need to be told -
It's no good play when you're growing old.
The faithful mirror on the wall,
My youthful face it can't recall at all.
When things around you are turning gray
It's hard to be energetic and gay.

When you are well over seventy,
You want to spend more time with your family;
Since your children have their own,
You can't see them more often for reasons known.
With sore joints and back, you're glad you can still walk;
But your spouse is not happy: too much you talk.

Your grand kids are on the French Immersion Course, eh?
Oui, I'm learning French too: nous parlons francais.
Whether you are happy or sad: let's look at it this way -
The Sun still rises and sets each day.
So, it's clear how you should spend your time,
Wear a smile and enjoy your day fine!

Frank Yue

Jia Dao Beneath The Moon, A Monk Knocks On The Door Wooden?? ????? ??????

TI LI NING YOU JU: "Brushing a Poem at Li Ning's Lodge"

-by JIA DAO (779 - 843)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In quietude, a young neighbour lives next to me;
The grassy path leads to a desolate garden.
Birds built their nests by a serene pond up the tree;
Beneath the Moon, a monk knocks on the door wooden.
Divided are wilderness hues beyond the bridge;
Moving the stones would roots of the rising clouds sway.
I'm leaving for now - my friend is still out of reach;
But I promise I'll come back on a future day.

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Jing Ke:Whistling Sharply Towards The Sky, With The Emperor He Wanted To Die! ?? ??????? ??????????

"The Yi River Song"

-by Jing Ke (? - 227 BC)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

'Whoosh! Whoosh! '— the fierce wind did blow;
The Yi River water was cold.
Once from here to go he did turn -
Ne'er should the Fearless One return!

Into the dragon's and tiger's den
The Brave One just went -
Whistling sharply towards the sky,
With the Emperor he wanted to die!

(2216.08.21)

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Frank Yue

Lao Zi: First, There Was This Nebulous Thing -Before The Birth Of Heaven And Earth ????? ?????

DAO DE JING: "The Way and Virtues Classic"
Chapter 25(First, there was this nebulous Thing)
-by LAO ZI (circa 600 BC - 500 BC?)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

First, there was this nebulous Thing -
Before the birth
Of Heaven and Earth:
It was soundless,
It was formless,
Independent and changeless,
Revolving, circulating and ceaseless -
That can be regarded as the Mother of All Thing.
To name it, I do not know how;
I just call it the Way -"Dao";
Loosely speaking, it is "Great";
It is boundless because it is so great,
So boundless that it is far away then,
So far away that it comes back again.
For this reason, Dao is great,
Heaven is great,
The Earth is great,
Man (or the King)is great.
In the Cosmos, there are Greats Four:
They are the greatest of all -
And Man (the King)is one of the four.
Man follows the laws of the Earth,
The Earth follows the laws of Heaven,
Heaven follows the laws of Dao,
Dao follows the laws of Nature enow.

(2013.04.25)

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Frank Yue

Lao Zi: When Things Are In A Stable Condition They're Easy To Keep ????????

DAO DE JING: "The Way and Virtues Classic"

Chapter 64(When things are in a stable condition)

-by LAO ZI (circa 600 BC - 500 BC?)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

When Things are in a stable condition they're easy to keep;
Before they've developed fully, they can be dealt with easily.
They can be separated with ease when they're still quite weak;
For very small Things, they may be lost inadvertently.
Deal with it first -before a situation arises;
Take preventive actions before a revolt brings surprises.
For each towering giant of a tree,
A tiny bud it used to be.
For a terrace nine-storey high,
It came from baskets of soil piled.
For a journey of a thousand mile,
It starts with your first step all the while.
Only when something someone does,
It can then cause one failure, thus.
When something someone gains,
She may lose it again.
Hence, the Sage does nothing,
And there's nothing to fail.
Himself to things he ne'er avails;
So he ne'er loses anything.
For the common People, they fail mostly
When their tasks they have completed nearly.
Now, if they could be careful till the end,
As they were when the job they first began -
Then, failure will be in vain.
Hence, the Sage thinks about People's "non-think";
He treasures not a single luxury, rare thing.
The Sage learns those things People loathe to learn;
The right to right People's wrongs he will earn -
To aid All Things to develop naturally,
And not to try to intervene quite needlessly.

(2013.04.28)

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Frank Yue

Last Words By Qiu Jin: O Autumn Winds Chilly, O Autumn Rains Chilly ?? ?? : ????????

Last Words by Qiu Jin(1875~1907)

- the first female Chinese revolutionary martyred towards the dying days of the Manchu Dynasty

- Translated by Frank C Yue

O Autumn Winds chilly,

O Autumn Rains chilly,

(O Blood, Why you are spilling?)-

Woe o'er m'Loved Country (of Serfs unwilling) ! unwilling) !

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Frank Yue

Li Ao: I've Trained My Body To Imitate The Ageless Crane's Way ?? ??????? ????????

FOR YAO SHAN HIGH MONK WEI YAN: 2 POEMS

-by LI AO (772-841)

-This translation dedicated to Prof. Lee Sum-Ping (Honorary Warden, 'Young-Woo-Yue Hall' and a die-hard 'Argonaut') by Frank C Yue (Sr. Fellow Argonaut)

I've trained my body to imitate the ageless Crane's way;
Under a thousand pines, I've digested the 'Canons Two';
I'd come to seek the Way -but no other words did you say!
(Be like) 'water in a bottle, a cloud in the sky blue.'

This fine, secluded lodge in the wilderness is m'choice now;
There's no coming and going here all year round, so to speak.
Sometimes, I do climb up to the top of the lonely peak,
Unleashing a long howl beneath the Moon amidst the clouds.

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Frank Yue

Li Bai My Old Friend's Journeying East Of Yellow Crane Tower Tower ?? ??????? ??????? ??????? ????????

Bidding Meng Haoran Adieu, leaving for Guangling (Yangzhou)

-by LI BAI (701-762)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

My old friend's journeying east of Yellow Crane Tower,
Downstream to Yangzhou amid misty April flowers.
Lone sail disappears down the edge of the azure sky;
Still, toward the horizon the Yangtze is rolling by.

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Frank Yue

Li Bai The Green Mountains North Of The Suburbs Lie, White Water 'round The East City Flows By ?? ????? ? ????

"Seeing My Friend Off"

- Li Bai

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The following translation is dedicated to the
loving memory of my late friend, Dr Cheung Sik-hin.

The green mountains north of the suburbs lie,
White water 'round the East City flows by;
Here, once goodbye to each other we say,
For a thousand miles your lone boat will race.

The drifting clouds carry the wanderlust's feeling;
Our friendship is reflected by the Sun setting.
Waving hands, we go on our separate ways,
"Xiaoxiao, " sadly my dappled horse neighs and neighs.

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Frank Yue

Li Bai: Above Tianshan The Bright Moon Rises ?? ????? ? ??????

Moon Over The Frontier Mountain

- Li Bai

Above Tianshan the bright Moon rises,
Amidst the sea of clouds that's ceaseless.
O'ver ten thousand miles the long wing blows past,
To the frontier soldiers at the Jade Gate Pass.
Down Baideng's mountain paths the Han armies are marching;
Against the Qinghai Lake the Huns have been invading.
O! From the battlefields since the days of old,
How many warriors have returned to the fold?
Gazing at the borderland stretching far and wide,
The troops all think of home with teary eyes.
Tonight, in faraway towers tall,
There are myriad sighs by the wives all!

(2020.11.16)

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Frank Yue

Li Bai: Bright Furnace-Fires Light Up The Ground And Sky; Disrupting Red-Sparks In Purple Smokes Fly ??? ???? ?????

QIUPU GE: "THE SONG OF QIUPU"
('Autumn River Bank') No.14 (of 17)
-LI BAI (701-762)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Bright furnace-fires light up the ground and sky;
Disrupting red-sparks in purple smokes fly.
The smelters, blushing with heat, in clear Moon light
With moving songs the cold river excite!

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Frank Yue

Li Bai: I Long To Use The Sharp Sword By My Waist, Enemy Forts To Right Away Lay Waste! ?????? ??????

SAI SHA QU: "The Frontier Song" No.1 (of 6)

-by LI BAI (701- 762)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In the fifth month at Tian Shan here, snows fall;
There's plenty of cold but no flow'r at all.
I hear flute's tune of parting willows sad;
Spring has sprung but Spring is not seen instead.
Roar'ng golden drums lead the morning battle;
Sleeping, I hug my jade-adorn'd saddle.
I long to use the sharp sword by my waist,
Enemy forts to right away lay waste!

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Frank Yue

Li Bai's Climbing The Phoenix Terrace In Jinling ?? ??? ????

Climbing the Phoenix Terrace in Jinling

- by Li Bai

- Translated by Frank C Yue

On the Phoenix Terrace three phoenixes were once at play;

The terrace is empty after the phoenixes were gone.

Unflagging, the Great River just keeps rolling on.

The Wu Palaces flowers and grass

Were buried beneath quiet foot-paths.

Costumes and hats of the Jin Dynasty

Became burial mounds of antiquity.

Half of the three mountains high

Is located beyond the blue sky;

With green water on both hands

The sand-bar White Heron stands.

Often times the Sun's blotted by the clouds drifting;

Not seeing Chang'an -O it's so disconcerting.

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Frank Yue

Li Bai's Leaving Baidi Town Early ?? ????????

Leaving Baidi Town Early

- Li Bai (Tang Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

I left Baidi by

The light of coloured clouds in the morning,

At day's end, I arrived

At hundreds-miles-away Jiangling.

On both banks atop the cliffs

The gibbons ceaselessly cried;

Downstream, my light skiff

Has glided by ten-thousand-folds of the mountain-sides.

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Frank Yue

Li Bai's Marching With The Armies No.2 ????????

Marching with The Armies II

- by Li Bai (Tang Poet)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

After a hundred battles fighting,
His trusted armour was up breaking;
To the south of the besieged city
Sev'ral entrapments by the enemy!
All the traps a-breaching,
General Guo shot down his chief adversary then.
By himself galloping,
He led forth and brought back hundreds of his mounted men!

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Frank Yue

Li Bai's Quiet Night Thoughts ?????? ??????

Quiet Night Thoughts

- Li Bai

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Beyond my chair outdoors placed,
I see moonlight flooding the ground;
(Softly, to myself I say :)
Could this be frost lying around?

Up my head I raise,
At the mountain Moon I gaze;
Hanging my head down,
I think of my home-town.

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Frank Yue

Li He Mincing Each Word And Finding The Right Rhymes ??????? ????????

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NAN YUAN: "The South Garden" No.6 (of 13)
-by LI HE (790~816)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Mincing each word and finding the right rhymes -
Immers'd in literary works till one dies.
At dawn, the Moon bids adieu to the curtains;
It does look like a drawn bow for certain.
Hell-fire rages at the north-east each year;
Could these e'er stop the Autumn winds with tear?

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Frank Yue

Li He Why Don't We All Pick Up Our Curved Swords, Like Brave Men ????????????????

NAN YUAN: "South Garden" No.5 (of 13)

-by LI HE (790~816)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Why don't we all pick up our curved swords, like brave men -
To help recover the Emperor's "lost" lands then?
Please go to the Ling Yan Palace and check this out -
How many are Scholars among the Barons stout?

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Frank Yue

Li He: If Heav'n Were Sentimental, Heav'n Would Also Feel Sad And Old???????? ?

Jintóngxianrén Cíhàngè:

"Song of the Golden Bronze Deity Statute Bidding Farewell to the Han Emperor"

-by LI HE (790~816)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

At the great martial Han Emperor's Mao Ling mausoleum mound,
Of his ghostly night-time processions,stories abound.
The sweet fragrance of the cassia flowers floated around
Painted railings in the empty palaces where green moss was found.
The Wei Emperor's officials escorted the statute east;
Blowing into its eyes, sour winds from the north-east ne'er ceas'd.
O, Only the Han Moon kept the statute company in vain;
Leaving its master, its tears streamed down again and again.
Wilted flowers bade the travelling guest good-bye along Xia Yang road;
If Heav'n were sentimental, Heav'n would also feel sad and old.
'Neath the moon, the lone statute with its bowl crossed land desolate;
The farther it went from Chang'an, sounds of Wei River waves fade'.

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Frank Yue

Li He: The Old Rabbit And The Cold Toad Have Cleansed Their House And Skies With Tears?? ??????? ????????

MENG TIAN: "Dream Celestial"
-by LI HE (790-816)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The old Rabbit and the cold Toad
Have cleansed their House and skies with tears;
The fine Fairy Home -the cloud-foam'd,
White-wall'd Moon -slantingly appears.
Presses the round Jade Wheel gently
Against the wet dew-drops pearly.
When to the zenith rises the Moon,
With swaying pendants' jingling tune,
By the Cinnamon Tree fragrant,
I meet the Lady Elegant.

Gazing down at the Earth and seas
From the mystic Holy Mountains three -
Like a fast horse for thousands o' year,
Lands and seas appear and disappear.
Looking at the Middle Kingdom thus,
From afar -from ultra high up -
It is merely "Nine Specks of Dust",
And the oceans, water from a cup!

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Frank Yue

Li He: To Find Stones Of Fine Jade Indeed, One Dives Into Blue Water Deep ?? ??????? ????????

LAO FU CAI YU GE:

"Song of the Jade-Stone Picking Old Man"

-by LI HE (790~816)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

To find stones of fine jade indeed,
One dives into blue water deep.
Stones are carved meticulously
To make head ornaments for ladies.
Of cold and hunger, the old man's conscious;
Disturbed water makes the dragon anxious.
Turbid's the rivulet at Stream Blue;
No day goes by with clear water, too.
When the night rain falls on the hills thus,
The old man feeds on wild hazel nuts.
As the cuckoo cries sadly
He is also all teary.

In Blue Stream, many a man had drown'd;
After death, at the stream they frown.
Cypress winds and rains howl at cliff-side;
Climbing down steep slopes, the rope swings wide.
He just thinks of his young grandson,
And his thatch hut in the village cold,
When he sees the ivies in the sun
Growing from cracks in the stone steps old.

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Frank Yue

Li He: With Tang Swords, His Foes He Cut Down; He Took The Fine Steed And The Crown?? ????? ??????

MA SI: "Horse Poem" No.16 (of 23)

-by LI HE (790~816)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

With Tang swords, his foes he cut down;
He took the fine steed and the Crown.
Its golden armour isn't heavy;
The horse'd catch the cyclone easy.

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Frank Yue

Li He: Boundless And Bare, Desert Sands Gleam Like Snow ?? ????? ??????

MA SHI: "Horse Poem" No.5 (of 23)

-by LI HE (790~816)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Boundless and bare, desert sands gleam like snow;
Like a curved sword hangs the Yan Mountain moon.
When will the fine, gold-harness'd war horse soon
On the crisp Autumn plains galloping go?

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao Amid Autumnal Green Petals, Fades Fragrance From Pink Lotus Flowers. ??? ????????

TUNE: Yi Jian Méi

"A Cut Spray of Plum-Flowers"

TITLE: "Amid autumnal green petals, fades fragrance"

-by LI QINGZHAO (1081-1151?)

(Southern Song dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Amid autumnal green petals, fades fragrance from pink lotus flowers.

Taking off my silk robe, (m'self some freedom to afford -)

Alone, an orchid boat I blithely board.

Through clouds, who's sending me a letter on the Geese that ply?

By the time the winged messengers return with my reply,

Bright moonlight floods my western bower.

Petals fall and blow,

Running waters flow;

The same strong longings we share,

In two places two hearts in despair!

O Tell me please, would you,

How to clear sentiments so blue?

Grief knitted my eyebrows in deep frown,

Once released, Grief sinks for my heart to drown!

(2013.10.22)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao Falling Snow Signals Faithful Spring's Round The Corner, I Know. ??? ????????

TUNE: Yú Jia Ao

"The Fishermen's Pride"

TITLE: "Falling snow signals faithful Spring's round the corner"

-by LI QINGZHAO (1084-1151)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Falling snow signals faithful Spring's round the corner, I know.
Bright stars of plum blossom up on the crystal branches show.
Still in half-bloom, blush the fragrant, young tender faces,
Mid-courtyard, after bath a fresh dress Jade Lady embraces.

Some sentiments, the Heavens probably bear -
Moonlight O shining so bright, to bring up.
Admiring the flower I drink the green wine in m'cup,
And just drink up, and not to lighten up, With other flowers this flower is beyond
compare!

(2013.10.22)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao The Setting Sun, Itself Smelted Like Gold, Taints All Like Gold ??? ????? ????? ??????

TUNE: YONG YU LE

"Forever A-meeting Happiness"

TITLE: "The setting Sun, itself smelted like gold"

-LI QINGZHAO (1084-1151)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The setting Sun, itself smelted like gold, taints all like gold;
Ev'ning clouds close ranks to form piece of sculpted jade, like so.
Alas! Where is my dear husband, though?
Willows dyed dripping green,
Thick chimney smokes rising, by all seen,
Plum-blossoms swaying in the breeze there,
Flute's sad tunes from nowhere -
O! Vibrant Spring is now in the air!
On this fine 'Everyone's Birthday' today,
The weather is warm, people are gay.
Despite all this, the wind and rain may not stay away!
I'm thankful for the invitation: Fragrant carriage, precious steeds,
Drinking friends, rhyming companions, come a-visiting at speed.

On this double feast day (this leap year) at the Middle Kingdom,
Be idling in their boudoirs, young ladies would seldom -
Enjoying bright lanterns and full Moon is the common wisdom.
Ladies' new hats adorned with fine feathers and jade green,
Bright, gold-trimmed silk-flower cutouts are sharp and lean.
But, I'm so dreary,
And I'm so weary!
Of wind and frost, my graying hair has its share;
Going out after dusk, I do not care.
It's better to sit by the curtain, out of sight,
Listening to the people's talks and laughter at night!

(2013.10.24)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao: Heavily Drunk Last Night I Only Undress Now, And Here ??? ????????

TUNE: Sù Zhong Qíng

"Innermost Feelings Out-poured! "

TITLE: "Heavily drunk last night I onlyundress now"

-by LI QINGZHAO (1081-1151?)

(Southern Song dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Heavily drunk last night I only undress now, and here.

A wilted plum-blossom is still inserted in my hair.

Sobering, the flower's aroma wakes me from my Spring slumber,

M'dream of returning to m'country lost is encumber'd.

Quietly, quietly I remain,

The Moon lingers, lingers in vain.

From rolling up, the green curtains refrain.

I rub and twist the dying petals with my fingers that hold,

I crush them for their remaining sweet scent to unfold,

I, thus, just want Time (howe'er little)to be controlled.

(2013.10.03)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao: In My Illness, My Temple Hair's Turning Gray (In Pain)?????????? ????????

TUNE: Tan Pò Huàn Qi Sha

"(Broken Form)Silk-Washing Stream"

TITLE: "In my illness my temple hair"

-by LI QINGZHAO (1081-1151?)

(Southern Song dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In my illness, my temple hair's turning gray (in pain):
In sick bed, I watch through window-screen Moon on the wane.
Brewing nutmeg herbal med'cine that agrees with me -
I had better not drink tea.

Leaning on my pillow reading poetry at leisure,
The front door fine scene in the rain affords much pleasure.
Tenderly facing me all day -
O My Osmanthus, flowers gay.

(2013.10.)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao: In The Gold-Like Lion-Head Burner, Cold Incense Is Found ??? ????? ?????????

TUNE: Re-calling the Flute-Duet at Phoenix Terrace

-LI QINGZHAO (1084-1151)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In the gold-like lion-head burner, cold incense is found;
Like red waves, the embroidered quilt is tossed around.
Getting out of bed, my hair I care not comb and wound.
On the pretty mirror box, let the dusts there sleep;
Now, high up to the curtain hooks the sunbeams creep.
I'm afraid of parting sorrows and longing pain.
For many things, the best results to attain -
From speaking, one must know when to abstain.
I have lost weight these few days -
It's not due to my drinking the day away,
Nor lamenting Autumn is due to decay.

Let it be, let it be! This time, you must go away!
A million times the "Parting Song" we might play,
But here, these shall never make you stay!
The visitor at Peach-Blossom Country has strayed far and long;
Lingering mists still lock onto the Phoenix Terrace strong.
In front of our Qin mansion -only the flowing waters gay
Will not forget me -this is where I shall fix my gaze all day.
Where my pining gaze is fixed each long day,
A layer of new sorrows, again, is laid!

(2013.10.03)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao: Last Night, Gusty Winds Put Intermittent Rains To Flight???? ?????? ???????

TUNE: Rú Mèng Lìng:

"Song Like A Dream"

TITLE: One Spring Night

-LI QINGZHAO (1084-1151)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Last night, gusty winds put intermittent rains to flight;
Drunk, I slept soundly and did not finish the wine out-right.
I ask (this morning)my maid rolling up the curtain;
"Yes, M'dam, the crab-apples are still in bloom, for certain."
Don't you know?
Don't you know -
The leaves should be thick and green,
The flowers, red and stems, lean.

(2013.10.03)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao: My Lonesome Courtyard Is Desolate Like So So ??? ??????????

TUNE: NIAN NU JIAO

"Remembering the Tender, Lovely Lady"

TITLE: "My lonesome courtyard is desolate like so"

-by LI QINGZHAO (1084-1151)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

My lonesome courtyard is desolate like so-
Swiped by slanting winds and light rains, all doors must be closed.
Emerald willows without peer,
Flowers radiant, the 'Cold-Meals Day' is near.
O the rapid-changing weather (unseen before)
Is most annoying of all!
Using extraordinary rhymes to finish averse,
A fading hangover I still nurse.
Certainly, in a leisurely mood, I am immersed.
Now that all the wild geese have gone,
It's hard to send my letter with myriad feelings written on!

My boudoir has weathered many a Spring night's chill;
On four sides there, the curtains are hanging still.
To lean on the pale railings is the least of my will.
The quilt now cold, the incense fragrance and new dreams gone -
How could one, drowned in sorrows, sleep on?
Sparkling dew-pearls roll down morning leaves (and take wing) ,
Young, restless phoenix trees putting forth many a new thing -
All this inflates my desire to tour the country in Spring.
It's high noon, chimney smokes are thinning out;
Let me see if the golden Sun is still out and about.

(2013.10)

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Frank Yue

Li Qingzhao: The Silver River Is A-Churning Far Up In The Skies ??? ???????

TUNE: Nán Ge Zi

"Little South Country Song"

TITLE: "In my illness my temple hair"

-by LI QINGZHAO (1081-1151?)

(Southern Song dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Silver River is a-churning far up in the Skies,
Down on Earth here, window curtains block prying eyes.
The chill invades my mat and pillow,
And then my tears start to flow.
I get up, disrobe, and ask the young Night,
When will you e'er take flight?

On my robe, the sewn-on green feather young lotus is small,
Across the back, sparse gold-embroidered lotus leaves sprawl.
I still wear my old clothes as the old weather unfolds,
O Everything's the same as in m'home of old -
But for my deep emotions (that are now uncontrolled) !

(2013.10.20)

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Frank Yue

Li Shangyin: For Early Court He Vacated Too Soon Her Perfumed Bed! ?????????? ??????????

Wéi You: "Because"
-LI SHANGYIN (813-858)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Because of the carved marble her screen was a beauty rare;
Yet, at the Capital each cool Spring morning she despair'd.
Quite effortlessly, a Gold Tortoise official she wed;
For early Court he vacated too soon herperfumed bed!

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Frank Yue

Li Shangyin: Man Treasures Always Rays Of The After-Rain Evening Sun ??? ????? ????? ?????

WAN QING:

“AT DUSK, THE SUN COMES OUT AGAIN AFTER THE DAY-LONGRAIN”

-LI SHANGYIN (813-858)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Dwelling quietly in a high place above the city walls,
With Spring just gone, I find Summer still quite cool after all.
As the lowly, serene grass remains Heaven's favoured one,
Man treasures always rays of the after-rain Evening Sun!
Adding to the scene on the attic is reflected light;
The last of the sun-beams make my small window subtly bright.
The wet nest will be dry (before finally falls the Night):
Now, a lighter, care free southern bird returns home in flight.

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Frank Yue

Li Shangyin: You Asked Of My Date Of Return I Can't See Clearly Beyond ??? ??????? ????????

Yè Yu Jì Bei:

"IN THE EVENING RAIN WRITING TO THE NORTH"

- by LI SHANGYIN (813-858)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

You asked of my date of return, I can't see clearly beyond;
The Bashan night rains in Autumn have swollen my garden pond.
When will we by the west window both trim candle wicks again,
And talk of the long nights it rained at Bashan there and then?

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Frank Yue

Li Shangyin's Floral-Painted Se ??? ??????? ????????

Jin Sè:

“Floral-Painted (Ancient Musical Instrument)Se”

-by Li Shangyin (813- c.858)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

On her fine 'Se' painted with flow'rs there are fifty strings
-For no reason;each string, each bridge fond Memories brings.
Like Zhuangze, with his dawn-dream gay-Butterfly obsessed,
King Wang's spirit on Spring Cuckoos still calls for the quest.

Beneath the full Moon, teary Pearls rise from the sea vast;
Above sunny Jades at Lantian, the Haze spreads up fast.
These sentiments now only lived in my Reverie;
Sad and perplex'd at the time, of m'self I was not free.

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Frank Yue

Li Wenfu: The Blue Mountain's Not At All Old, It Is White-Haired Because Of Snow ??? ????? ????

Philosophical Chinese Couplet

-by (a young)Chen Yifu (Southern Song dynasty)Or/

-by (a young)Li Wenfu (Qing dynasty)

-Translated by (a 'young-at-heart')Frank C Yue

The Blue Mountain's not at all old,
It is white-haired because of Snow.

The Green Pond's actually care-free,
Its wrinkles are add'd by the Breeze.

(2013.10.22)

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Frank Yue

Li Yi: With Embroider'd Ribbon Down Our Waist Running ?? ??????? ????????

Remembering the Borderland

- by Li Yi (748-829)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

With embroider'd ribbon down our waist running,
And razor-sharp curved sword in hand,
On horseback we defend our border-land,
For many Autumns, beyond the Pass stretching.

My friend, away your derisive laughs stow -
These sons of the Guanxi family do show
The General's exemplary bravery
That lives forever in Liangzhou history!

(2016.01.13)

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Frank Yue

Li Yu: When Will Spring Flow'rs And Autumn Moon E'er End? ?? ?????? ??????

TUNE: YU MEI REN"Fair Lady Yu"

-Li Yu (937-978)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

When will Spring flow'rs and Autumn Moon e'er end?
Of past events how many were known then?
Small attic was swept again by East Wind last night;
I couldn't bear recalling my lost Kingdom in clear moon-light!
Carved balustrades and jade ornaments should still be there;
Changed only are the pink faces fair.
How much sorrows can one e'er have unreleased?
Just like the ceaseless Spring river rushing east!

(2014.07.02)

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Frank Yue

Li Yu: Wordless, Alone, Up The West Tower I Climb The Stair; The Moon, Like A Curved Sword, Hangs There?? ?????? ????

TUNE: Xiang Jiàn huan

"Joy in Seeing Each Other" I

TITLE: AUTUMN PASSIONS

-LI YU (937-978)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Wordless, alone, up the West Tower I climb the stair;
The Moon, like a curved sword, hangs there.
Held captive in the deep courtyard and its lonesome phoenix tree,
Is the cool, pure Autumn breeze.

Cut it, it doesn't sever;
Sort it, as entangled as ever -
It is a great sorrow to part,
Creating an entirely different feeling in my heart!

(2013.10.21)

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Frank Yue

Like A Jade-Tree In The Breeze, The Handsome Guy

A Little 'Lewd' Loop Poem

"LIKE A JADE-TREE IN THE BREEZE, THE HANDSOME GUY"

-by Frank C Yue

Like a jade-tree in the breeze, the handsome guy with a flute there stood;
The fine flutist was found deep in the cool shades of a flow'ry wood.
In the shades, adoring fragrant Plum-Blossoms bloomed for him two times;
O, Beautiful Plum-Blossoms bloomed two times for the young flutist fine!

(2013.09.22)

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Frank Yue

Like Water The Years Flowing By... Gazing At The Late E'ening Sky

Like Water the Years Flowing By ????

- by Frank C Yue

Like water the years flowing by....
Gazing at the late e'ening sky,
Gazing at the all-orange sea,
O, Left behind right here am I!

Some of my old Comrades are gone,
To the next Bright Realm they had passed on;
Whilst in deep thoughts of past events
In the Sun sinking I'm singing m'song!

Now that we're still able and mellow,
Stock up all the supplies and barrels;
Ne'er too late to seek a newer world, m'Friends -
We shall sail through the sounding furrows!

Come, my Warriors all-young-at-heart,
Let's join hands - again - for a fresh start!
Together, we'll strive and seek and find
The fabled, long-lost Solomon's Mine!

Frank Yue

Lim Bu's Yearning For You Forever ??? ???????

Yearning for You Forever

- Lim Bu (Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Green is the Wu hill,
Green is the Yue hill;
Each other facing,
The two green hills
Of the river on both hands.
Their deep sorrow at parting who'd e'er understand?

Your eyes full of tears,
My eyes full of tears;
The silk ribbon, adjoining two hearts pierced,
Alas, has not yet been tied!
At the riverside,
Already flowed has the tide.

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Frank Yue

Lin Zexu: Swallowing A Hundred Rivers As It Is Virtuous Vast Is The Sea ????????

Famous Chinese Couplet

- by Lin Zexu (Lin Tse-hsu) (Qing Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Swallowing a hundred rivers,

As it is virtuous vast is the sea;

Towering thousands of feet high,

As it is desire-less the cliff's mighty.

(2016.08.17)

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Frank Yue

Liu Changqing 柳常清: The Bamboo Grove Temple 竹林寺 , 竹林寺

“Saying Farewell to Monk Lingche”

- Liu Changqing

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The Bamboo Grove Temple, in a serene dark-green setting,
Tolls, from a distance, its bell in the evening.

With a straw hat on his back, he walks in the Sun slanting;
Alone, towards the green mountains the Monk is returning.

«竹林寺» 柳常清

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Frank Yue

Liu Kezhuang's The Nightingale Shuttles ??? ?????? ? ??????

The Nightingale Shuttles

- by Liu Kezhuang (Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Like fast shuttles were the lively nightingales on the wing;

"Jiao! Jiao! "-so like weaving machines when nightingales did sing.

The Laoyang flowers in March were like the embroidery fine;

To make such an exotic product, how much efforts and time?

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Frank Yue

Liu Xiang: Devoted To Learning In One's Youth -Like The Rising Sun ????? ?????? ????? ??????

"Devoted to learning in one's youth"
-by LIU XIANG (77 BC - 6 BC)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Devoted to learning in one's youth -
Like the rising Sun,
Golden chances abound to acquire the truth.

Learning at the mid-point of the run -
Like the Sun at its highest mark,
Prospects are bright (-more could be done) .

Learning when one is old -
(O Take heart, for even so -)
You're holding out a candle to dispel the dark!

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Frank Yue

Liu Yi: I Ask Myself About The Son Of Peng City - By Whom Have You Been Given This Insanity? ??????? ? ???

ZI WEN: Asking Myself

- by LIU YI

- Translated by Frank C Yue

I ask myself about the "Son of Peng City" -
By whom have you been given this insanity?
Spilling out my guts, they are like the ocean wide;
My poetic boldness is as huge as the sky.
A sharp but broken sword would just the scabbard waste;
On a decaying qin, no sound string would e'er stay.
Though we have met, there is not much communion;
I'd seek the serene woods and fountain for union.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yi's I'd Seek The Serene Woods And Fountain For Union ?????? ??????

ZI WEN: "Asking Myself"

- by Liu Yi

- Translated by Frank C Yue

I ask myself about the "Son of Peng City" -

By whom have you been given this insanity?

Spilling out m'wine guts, they are like the ocean wide;

My poetic boldness is as huge as the sky.

A sharp but broken sword would just the scabbard waste;

On a decaying qin, no sound string would e'er stay.

Though we have met, there is not much communion;

I'd seek the serene woods and fountain for union.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yi's This Often Dulls, In My Chest, My Sword Of Ages ????????????????

OU SHU: "Writing Casually"

-by LIU YI

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Ten feet above the Mystic Tree, the sun rises;
Fine as hair are the Secular World's myriad things.
Angry country folk stares at Justice's broken wings;
This often dulls, in my chest, my Sword of Ages.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi In Caizhou City The Rebels Were Fearful Of Their Plight ??? ?????? ???????

PING CAIZHOU:

"Crushing the Rebellion at Caizhou" No.1 (of 3)

-by LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In Caizhou City the rebels were fearful of their plight;
O'er the dark moat at night fell an ominous meteorite.
The mighty Han "Flying General" seemed to come out of the sky;
With a whiz of his horse whip, the stout gates were flung open wide.
Surprised, the demoralised rebel army surrender'd,
Like hibernating creatures shocked by the Spring thunder.
Hands tied, the leader got onto the cart for prisoner;
The large, silk Vict'ry-Report Banner in the wind flutter'd.
Now to the liberated cities, the Prime Minister does go;
Receiving him in the suburb is the General with his bow.
Commoners return in peace to their villages and cities,
The children are bouncing around, the troops dancing happily.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi O, The Past Dynasty's Cliche Tunes And Songs, Please Play No More ??? ??????? ????????

YANGLIU ZHI CI: "The Willow Twig Song"

-LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In the north frontier, qiang flutes play the tune "Falling Plum Flowers"
free;

In the south, for long they sing "The Hermit and the Cinnamon Tree".

O, The past dynasty's cliché tunes and songs, please play no more;

Now, Let's hear and sing the new revised Willow Twig Song for all!

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi: Hair On Ends Stand As, For The Frontier Grassland, The War Horse Pines ??????? ? ???????

Shi Wén Qiu Feng:

"On First Hearing the Autumn Wind"

-by LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Last time when I left you I saw the yellow mums a-blooming;
Now, I'm back here upon hearing the black cicadas calling.
Awaken'd at the fifth watch by the Autumn wind chilly,
I see in the mirror change in my complexion yearly.
Hair on ends stand as, for the frontier grassland, the war horse pines;
Hoping for blue skies, the sleepy condor opens its sharp eyes.
The air is crisp, the skies high, the views fine at this Autumn time -
Though indisposed, to hug you once more the high terrace I climb.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi: O, The Past Dynasty's Cliche Tunes And Songs, Please Play No More?????? ?

YANGLIU ZHI CI: "The Willow Twig Song"

-LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In the north frontier, qiang flutes play the tune "Falling Plum Flowers";
free;

In the south, for long they sing "The Hermit and the Cinnamon Tree";

O, The past dynasty's cliché tunes and songs, please play no more;

Now, Let's hear and sing the new revised Willow Twig Song for all!

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's "The Fearless One's Tasks" ??? ? ???? ?????

ZHUANG SHI XING: "The Fearless One's Tasks";
- by LIU YUXI (772-842)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Biting cold winds reverberated in the chilly suburb,
(While throughout the dark woods) fierce tiger's mighty roar was heard.
Slowly walking, O so slow, onto the burnt fallow fields,
With low growls, into the yellow grass, it vanished from view.

Galloping fast on his gallant steed, then came the brave one;
He stamp'd his stirrups, bent the jade bow as if hold'ng the Sun.
The tiger stood on hind legs, as he roared out a loud shout -
His sharp arrow, like a piercing spear, he at once shot out!

The light from the man-eater's eyes fell sudden like comet from th' sky;
The tree tops were stained red, for the beast's blood spurted so high.
The fierce beast's thick skin with striking stripes, his cushion shall be;
Its freshly-slaughtered meat would stock up his kitchen pantry.

The villagers were elated, rid of their greatest pest!
They cheered most loud, and to celebrate brought out their wine best.
Tomorrow, all the townsfolk will be out on the bridge long,
To watch how he shall kill the terrifying dragon strong.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's "Walking On The Causeway"???

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DI SHANG XING: "Walking on the Causeway";
-by LIU YUXI (772-842)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Wine banners at each other stare
At the head of the causeway long.
Below the causeway, masts line up;
Above, tav'rns beckons with wine cup.

At sundown, hurri'd come along
Pedestrians the ferry to fare;
Now, all over mid-stream are found
Rowing oars with their moving sound.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's I Will Rekindle With Wine The Fighting Spirit Of Mine??? ??????? ??????????

Responding to Bai Juyi's Poem Presented to Me
When We First Met at a Banquet in Yangzhou
- by LIU YUXI (772-842)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Among the Ba Mountains and other backwater country,
For twenty-three years demoted and forsaken was me.
Reminiscing, I recite the sad Requiem Song in vain;
Now home, I seem like the guy back-from-Fairyland again.

By a boat, half-sunken, a thousand others are sailing;
Myriad woods in Spring are growing beyond this tree ailing.
Today, listening to you singing for me a song fine,
I will rekindle with wine the fighting spirit of mine.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's Into The Commoners' Homes You've All Flown (-Now Dispossessed) !??? ????????

WU YI XIANG: "THE BLACK GOWN LANE";

-LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

By the Red Bird Bridge, luxuriant the wild grass and flowers;
Black Gown Lane entrance stained by the setting Sun at this hour.
O Swallows, in the great halls of the lords you used to nest,
Into the commoners' homes you've all flown (- now dispossessed) !

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's Lake-Views And Autumn Hues, Both Harmonious Still ??? ????????

"VIEWING LAKE DONG TING"

-LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Lake-views and Autumn hues, both harmonious still -

Wrinkleless face: Hazy mirror, rather.

From afar, so green are the lake and hill -

A blue conch on a silv'ry white platter.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's Last Time When I Left You I Saw The Yellow Mums A-Blooming ????????

Shi Wén Qiu Feng:

"On First Hearing the Autumn Wind"

-by LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Last time when I left you I saw the yellow mums a-blooming;
Now, I'm back here upon hearing the black cicadas calling.
Awaken'd at the fifth watch by the Autumn wind chilly,
I see in the mirror change in my complexion yearly.
Hair on ends stand as, for the frontier grassland, the war horse pines;
Hoping for blue skies, the sleepy condor opens its sharp eyes.
The air is crisp, the skies high, the views fine at this Autumn time -
Though indisposed, to hug you once more the high terrace I climb.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's The Bamboo Song ??? ????????

The Bamboo Song Liu Yuxi (Tang Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Red peach flow'rs cling crowdedly on each branch
All over the hills;
In early Spring rushing rivers in Sichuan
Have fattened the rills.
O Like my Love's love, the crimson flowers
Would easily fade;
Like my endless lament at this hour,
The waters run away.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's The Green Hills Around The Old Capital City Are Still There ??? ????????

SHITOU CHENG: "Big Rocks City"

(Jinling: present day Nanking)

-by LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The green hills around the old Capital City are still there;
The Wei River tide rolls in and retreats in lonely despair.
In the east, the ageless Moon rises -having seen better times;
In the deep of night, over the broken battlements it shines.

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's They Say It's Rain'ng, I Say My Sun Ne'er Shines In Vain! ??????? ????????

ZHU ZHI CI:

"Bamboo Branch Song" No.1 (of 2)

-LIU YUXI (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Green, green willows, the placid river flows along;
I hear my Love on the water singing a song.
The east Sun rises, and the west is shroud'd in rain;
They say it's rain'ng, I say my Sun ne'er shines in vain!

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Frank Yue

Liu Yuxi's With Many Turns The Yellow River Flows With Sands From Afar???

LANG TAO SHA: "Waves Scouring Sands"

-by LIU YUXI(772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

With many turns the Yellow River flows with sands from afar;
Coming from the sky's edge, the wind-blown rolling waves never stay.
In my search for the source, I journey straight up the Milky Way,
And end up in the homes of the Herd Boy and Weaver Girl Stars.

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Frank Yue

Liu Zhongyong: The Gold River Or Jade Gate Pass Frontiers, Year After Year ??? ?????? ????????

ZHENG REN YUAN

("Lament of the (Conscripted) Frontier Soldiers")

-by LIU ZHONGYONG (? - c.775)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Gold River or Jade Gate Pass frontiers, year after year -
On horseback with my long sword forever, day after day.
In late Spring, when white snow melts all the green tombs reappear;
Endless Yellow River flows round the Black Mountains, whatev'r may.

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Frank Yue

Liu Zhongyuan: Like Sharp Swords, Stand Many Pointed Hills By The Sea???

“Admiring the Hills view with Monk Hao Chu and Sending this Poem to My Relatives and Friends at Chang'an”

-LIU ZONGYUAN (772-842)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Like sharp swords, stand many pointed hills by the sea;
Into pieces my anxious Autumn guts, cut they would.
How could I transform m'self into a million me -
Atop each hill, so gaze at my village I could?

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Frank Yue

Lou Hongxian Holding Public Office, You're Positioned To Do Good Deeds??? ????????

An Admonitory Poem for High Officials

-by LOU HONGXIAN(1504-1564)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Holding public office, you're positioned to do good deeds;
Never scheme or use tricks to harm the poor and those in need.
When there's a fire in the stove, don't add any more charcoal;
When ice and snow is all around, don't fan up the winds cold.
As the boat is in deep water, hold on to the rudder;
As the arrow's placed on the bow, be slow to draw the string.
If you're in power but convenience to people you don't bring,
It's useless no matter how many times you say your prayer!

(2013.04.23)

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Frank Yue

points, but "Dong Xi": "East, West", the other 2 directions are missing.

and the 2-word combo "??" also means "something".

Therefore, ?? "??" = (have)"nothing" (at home) !

The young scholar then was in abject poverty.

Frank Yue

Lu Mengzheng: The Weather Just Changes When You Expect It Least ?????? ??????

An Admonitory Essay (Excerpt)

- by LU MENGZHENG (946-1011) (Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The weather just changes when you expect it least;
In an instant, along comes disaster or bliss.

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Frank Yue

Lu You: In The Shen Family Garden, Flowers Bloom Like Rich Embroid'ry ??????? ???????

At 84, a year before he died, Lu You -now a very frail old man -still went to the Shen Garden for the last time and wrote the following poem.

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CHUN YOU: "Spring Tour"
-by LU YOU (1125-1210)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

In the Shen Family Garden, flowers bloom like rich embroid'ry;
Half of the blossoms since decades are acquaintances of me.
I, too, believe my Lady Fair finally has become earth;
Alas! Too soon, too soon is gone my elusive dream with mirth!

Frank Yue

Lu You: Laugh Not At The Peasants' Turbid, Un-Strained Home-Brew'd New Year Wine ??????? ??????? ?

"Touring the Village West of the Mountain"
-by LU YOU(1125-1210)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Laugh not at the peasants' turbid, un-strained home-brew'd New Year wine;
They'd slaughter chickens and pig for their guest when they have harvests fine.
Hill after hill, rill after rill -it seems the path leads to nowhere;
Beyond the shady willows, bright flow'rs, another village lies there.
With the playing of happy flutes and drums, everyone knows Spring's near;
The simple rustic dress and hats show old tradition still
lives here.
From now on, maybe by serene moonlight, I could come in in leisure;
Carrying my cane, I would knock on my friend's night door with pleasure.

(2013.09.12)

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Frank Yue

Lu You: The Maple Leaves Start To Redden, And The Other Leaves, Yellow?? ??????? ????????

Shen Garden Re-visited the Third Time

-by LU YOU (1125-1210)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The maple leaves start to redden, and the other leaves, yellow;
With new frost on river and silver in m'hair, I have mellow'd.
The trees and pavil'on seem old and I turn my head in vain;
On the path to the Fountain who can share my sorrows and pain?
Dust covers the old inked poem and the dilapidated wall;
Truncated life, elusive dreams: memories aren't clear at all.
Over the years only pure thoughts remain: I've seen through the trick;
Turning to the prayer altar, I offer you an incense-stick.

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Frank Yue

Lu You: The Road Just South Of The City I Long Have Been Skirting ?????? ????????

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When he was 81, Lu You visited the Shen Garden again. He wrote another set of two poems after a dream:

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Touring Shen Yuan in My Dream No.1 (of 2)

-by LU YOU (1125-1210)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The road just south of the city I long have been skirting;
The Shen Family Garden for me is the most hurting!
Fragrance permeates the visitor's sleeves as plum-flowers bloom;
By the green temple and bridge, Spring waters flowing resume.

Frank Yue

Lu You: When One Dies One Finds That All Things Are Void As It Should Be ????????

To My Sons

-by Lu You (1125-1210)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

When one dies one finds that all things are Void as it should be;
But I still regret m'dear Motherland is not whole again!
The very day royal troops retake and set the north lands free -
Don't forget, m'sons, to tell me at my grave the good news then!

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Frank Yue

Lu You: 75 岁, 梦 香 已 去 四 十 年; 柳 絮 不 再 飞 舞;

75 岁, 梦 香 已 去 四 十 年;
柳 絮 不 再 飞 舞;

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SHEN YUAN ("Shen Garden")No.2 (of 2)
-by by LU YOU (1125-1210)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

O sweet dream and the fragrance have been gone for forty years;
Now, puffy seeds th' old Shen Yuan willow no longer produce.
On the hill, to ashes my ageing body will be reduced;
Still, I love re-living the Garden memories with tears!

75 岁, 梦 香 已 去 四 十 年;
柳 絮 不 再 飞 舞;

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Shen Yuan (Garden) No.1 (of 2)
-by by LU YOU (1125-1210)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Ov'r city and pavil'on, slanting Sun laments what it sees -
The great, luxuriant garden is not what it used to be!
Under the heart-break bridge the rippling Spring waves are still so green;
There I once saw flash reflection of the fair face of m'young Queen.

Frank Yue

Lu You:O, Spring Comes Again To The City-South Fields Pretty ??????? ????????

When he was 81, Lu You visited the Shen Garden again. He wrote another set of two poems after a dream:

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Touring Shen Yuan in My Dream No.2 (of 2)

-by LU YOU (1125-1210)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

O, Spring comes again to the City-south fields pretty;
Only plum-flowers are here, but not My Love -what a pity!
The dear jade bones have long been buried deep under the soil;
Locked up by dust, the ink traces on the wall will not spoil.

Frank Yue

Lu You's "Up Comes Stream Upon Stream, Hill Upon Hill" ??????? ????????

"Touring Shan Xi Village"

- by Lu You (1125-1210)

- excerpt translation by Frank C Yue

Up comes stream upon stream, hill upon hill,
When it appears there is no way ahead,
Beyond shady willows and bright flow'rs still -
Lies another quiet village instead.

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Frank Yue

Lu You's The Phoenix Hairpin (For His Former Lover)?

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(To the Tune of)The Phoenix Hairpin Ci
- Lu You (Song)

Red-sleeved, sensuous hand;
Yellow wine for this man!
Spring is in the air ov'r the whole city;
Behind palace wall's the willow pretty.
O Stop blowing, cruel east wind -
Love and ecstasy ne'er redeem'd!
A chestful of endless sorrow -
Separated for years with no to-morrow!
Wrong, wrong, wrong!

Like other Springs, Spring remain;
But you grow thinner in vain.
Tears soak up red silk handkerchief with stain.
Peach-blossoms fall
By lonesome pavilion next to pond small;
Like the mountain stands firm our eternal vow,
But sending you a letter is not allow'd!
No, no, no!

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Frank Yue

Lui Zhongyuan's River In Snow ?????? ??????

- Translated by Frank C Yue

From a thousand hills away the birds have flown,
On ten thousand paths no one has shown;
In a lone boat, wearing a straw hat and coat,
An old man alone angles the snowy river cold.

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Frank Yue

Ma Zhiyuan: To The Dry-Vine Entwined Old Trees Returning Are Cawing Crows In The Evening ??? ????? ? ??????

Sky Over Cleansed Sand: Autumn Sentiments

-Ma Zhiyuan (Yuan Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

To the dry-vine entwined old trees returning
Are cawing crows in the evening;
Beyond a short bridge stand some houses fine
Where the stream flows by.
On an ancient route trots along
A thin horse in the west wind strong;
Towards the West, setting is the Sun.
At the edge of the skies journeying,
O, the heart-broken one!

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Frank Yue

Mao Zedong's Fiercely Loyal We Were Ever Ci ??? ???? ???

TUNE: "Innermost Feelings Outpoured" Ci

TITLE: Innermost Feelings Outpoured

- by Mao Zedong (1893-1976)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Fiercely loyal we were ever
To our dear in-distress Country -
Ne'er afraid to have our heads sever'd!
Today, though all red is the land,
Who shall stand guard for our Motherland?

Affairs not in completion -
We're exhausted already,
Temple hair all hoary.
People of our generation -
Our life-long wish who could bear to see
All vanished, flowing towards the East?

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Frank Yue

Mao Zedong's On The Occupation Of Nanking ??? ????? ??? ????????

On the Occupation of Nanking (Capital of Nationalist China) by the
(Communist) People's Liberation Army

- by Mao Zedong (1893-1976)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

A huge colour-changing storm Zhongshan delivers
As a million gallant troops cross the great river.
Dragon-and-tiger flank'd, the city's beauty is unsurpassed,
Heaven-and-Earth churn'ng, the red army's spirit is strong and vast.

The fleeing bandits, we should press on to pursue.
Unlike Shangyi, the desire for fame we should subdue.
Had the Heav'ns any sentiments they now, too, would be quite old;
Change is the Way: Great seas have turned into fields and rocky folds.

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Frank Yue

Mao Zedong's ？？？ ????????????????????

“FAIRY CAVE AT LUSHAN”

- by MAO Zedong (1893-1976)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

At dusk, sticking out through the haziness a fine pine is seen;
With tumult'ous clouds flying past, its demean'r remains serene.
Above the secluded mystic Fairy Cave (where Nature speaks) -
Endless awe-inspiring views atop the precipitous peaks.

(2013.08.02)

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Frank Yue

M'classmates,50 Years Ago We First Met

"M'Classmates,50 Years Ago We First Met"

M'Classmates,50 years ago we first met,
Starry eyed and dreamers, we were all that;
"50 years" is not a short time, my friends,
In a few moments, this short poem will end.

"And as the Cock crew, those who stood before
The Tavern shouted - 'Open then the Door!
You know how little while we have to stay,
And, once departed, may return no more.' " **

And what have I done since leaving the university?
I'm not sure: To answer that I'll need my sanity,
Maybe, maybe I could say with some certainty,
I can answer that much better in another 50 years...

Frank Yue

Mirror, Mirror On My Wall, Whose Face Are You Showing Me?

- by Frank C Yue

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Whose face are you showing me?
That I am not happy to see,
A question, and I have questions more.

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Don't hide anything from me at all.
You always reflect the truth,
Just who is this guy I see in you?

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Why do I look different from before?
Mirror, will you tell me why,
Myself in you I can't recognize?

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
My hair is thin, sparse and hoar,
The firmness of my skin has gone,
M'eyelids are drooping, and my teeth, worn.

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Why my neck and shoulders are so sore?
Why are you so quiet all along?
You should at least sing me a song.

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Why am I shorter than before?
My eyesight is getting weaker,
The miles in my daily walk longer.

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
In you I see m'father more and more.
In my face someone'd ploughed deep furrows,
What would happen in "the tomorrows"?

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Why is my body aching and sore?
Where is the sparkle in my eye?
Where are the things I cannot find?

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
On m'mind there are scores of questions more...
O, gone where has my youthful face?
Is it in another time and space?

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Why my legs are a little frail?
Why my board-breaking punch seems to fail?
Why now I am prone to fall?

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Is m'Love still the fairest of them all?
Mirror, why are you still so quiet all day?
From me away, please don't just look away.

With the fallen petals all,
On the fast stream e'er flowing -
Bygone days never returning:
Our sweet, vibrant Spring is no more!

Mirror, mirror on my wall,
Why don't you answer me at all?
I look at you at least twice a day,
May Faith, Hope, Love come our way ev'ryday.

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Frank Yue

Monk Hongyi's A Farewell Song ?????: ???,???

- by Monk Hongyi (1880-1942)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

By the "good-bye" pavilion,
The old road beside,
Fragrant green grass links up the sky.
Willows sway in the evening breeze,
Dying tunes of the flute will soon cease.
There the setting Sun hangs still
Atop the hills upon hills.

At the sky's edge,
And at the land's horn,
Half of my bosom friends is gone.
A cup of wine un-strained,
Let's drink up what joy still remains.
Tonight -that is growing old -
Our parting dreams may be cold.

By the grass emerald,
The green waves roll,
On the southern bank - how hurting.
In life it's hard to have gatherings!
Only too many
Are the partings!

Friendship like a thousand strings fine;
With a cup of wine,
Parting flute's urging you on your way.
When will you be back again this time?
Now (- just tell me) ,
While returning you'd ne'er tarry!

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Frank Yue

Monk Yong Ming: Flanked By Clouds Passing, The Moon Seems To Move Unceasing ????????

"Flanked by clouds passing, The Moon"
-by Monk Yong Ming (Song Dynasty)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Flanked by clouds passing,
The Moon seems to move unceasing.
From a boat sailing,
The coast appears to be rambling.

In their truthful state,
The objects do not move at all -
But then more and more,
Our mind is leading us astray.

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Frank Yue

Motor Car Couplet: - u ??????? ??????? (1 Of 2)

BMW. Benz. Mazda

The PRECIOUS HORSE GALLOPS as if on wings,
Making its rider the proud WINNER IN ALL THINGS!

Jaguar. Lexus. Subaru

The JAGUAR, SPIRITS HIGH AS THE SKY,
Becomes ON LAND the MONSTER SPEED KING!

The Motor Car Couplet in Chinese:

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THIS IS AN A-LEVEL TEST -
THE ABOVE COUPLET WOULD ONLY MAKE SENSE IF YOU HAVE
A GOOD COMMAND OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

(2010.11.08)

Frank Yue

Motor Car Couplet: - ler ??????? ??????? (2 Of 2)

BMW. Benz. Mazda

The PRECIOUS HORSE GALLOPS as if on wings,
Making its rider the proud WINNER IN ALL THINGS!

Mustang. Fiat. Chrysler

The speedy JAGUAR, FAST AS THE WIND -
The BEST PERFORMER TAKING THE PRIZE is seen!

The Motor Car Couplet in Chinese:

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THE ABOVE COUPLET WOULD ONLY MAKE SENSE IF YOU HAVE A GOOD
COMMAND OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

(2010.11.08)

Frank Yue

Mr. Chan Is My Inspiration, I've Re-Affirmed My Resolution (4 Of 5)

This poem is the final chapter for -

1. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man(1 of 5)
2. Chance Counter With A 3-Legged Man(2 of 5)
3. Come, And Show Yourself If You Can, Mr. Chan - My Old '3-Legged' Friend! (3 of 5)
4. Mr. Chan Is My Inspiration, I've Re-Affirmed My Resolution (4 Of 5)
5. Good-bye, My 7-Minute Friend! (5 Of 5)

(2012.07.01)

Topic(s)of this poem: character, health, old age, perseverance

Mr. Chan Is My Inspiration,
I've Re-affirmed My Resolution -
(Now that migratory bird's settled down
Temporarily in its old home-town...)

Over the last few days I've been
Resuming my daily routine
Of morning walks in the nearby park
Where there is some not-so-'new' land-mark.

They're some fitness equipment outdoor
To encourage participation more.
Then I meet Mr. Chan again,
My (former)"three-legged" old friend!

In his favourite haunt, the park green,
I am pleased when he is "first seen"
After a lapse of some years three -
But he just can't remember me.

I'm also delighted to see
The petite '98! ' lady

Working out beside her faithful maid
In the park almost every day!

When I see Mr. Chan and his maid
This morning slowly coming my way,
I am quite saddened by the sight -
For he's now walking with "legs six"!

What! A "six-legged" man moving forth?
His own two legs plus the walker's four!
His leg muscles began to fail
O'er the last year; both legs frail -

Mr. Chan's walking-stick-days had gone.
His new "walker" he must rely on.
But that's just for a short distance -
For longer hauls, the wheelchair's the norm.

Why I didn't find you here last year?
"I came at a different hour here."
Mr. Chan simply can't recall
Our "walking-in-the-park" at all.

"I am eighty-years old this year."
(O mine, I thought he "was" my junior.)
Birds are chirping, others on the wing;
We chat and chat about most things.

Though Mr. Chan's face is wrinkled,
In his eyes there's a bright sparkle!
By late morning, we both have to part;
Mr. Chan's a real fighter at heart.

Our physical abilities frail
Over time are certain to fail.
With one's fighting spirit undying,
No one should ever cease trying

To keep fighting and fighting hard
For our dreams: Things dear to our heart.
Mr. Chan is my inspiration,
I've re-affirmed my resolutions -

I will start just from a small way
To exercise EVERY DAY!
And with my dear wife hand-in-hand,
We'll walk this land, till the very end

In our bitter-sweet journey of life -
To continue "fighting the good fight";!
For from morn to noon to even -
Forgive, we shall be forgiven;

Be kind, kindness we'll be given.
We receive when we are giving;
With great Love, life is worth living!
For it is written: In this life -

In DYING, we put DEATH to flight,
We're born into Eternal Life!
With Love, Hope and Faith,
We'll live everlasting days!

(- The End)

Frank Yue

Mrs Engfish's O Captain, Turn Our Ship To Shore! ???? ????

O Captain, Turn Our Ship To Shore! (Topical Matter at Fragrant Harbour)
- Mrs EngFish (Poem in Chinese)

Nobody on earth will live forever
But we know purity of heart dies never!
Many people made sacrifice choices
To fight for Hong Kong's future voices.
But someone still turning a deaf ear.
The deadlock keeps bringing many tears!

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Frank Yue

My Brand New Right Knee

My Brand New Right Knee

"Hey, Frank, an old friend's here visiting;
We'll have a little gathering.
Will you be coming? "
(To call to give you a lift for dinner,
You know which neighbour?)

O My dear neighbour sweet,
Who lives across the street,
Thank you for your offer with kindness abound!
But I'd join you guys the next time around.
You may wonder why?
Here are the reasons, O mine.

1. Yeah! My right knee is just "reborn",
And the swelling's long gone,
But it's only three weeks on.

2. It needs to be broken in,
But it's not a perfect scene
My returning home since...

3. They gave me 'Endocet' after operation
For pain mitigation.
But I had most of the side effects listed!
I threw up, was nauseated, constipated,
I lost my appetite, my stomach was bloated...

4. They then changed the medication for me:
Tylenol with Codiene #3,
But the side effects persisted, though to a lesser degree.

5. I don't have a good sleep nightly,
I'm still not quite the same me!
So, I won't be there this time,
Just enjoy your gathering, guys!

(2016.04.17)

Frank Yue

My Old Friend's Travelling From The East, At The Yellow Crane Tower ????????

"At Yellow Crane Tower Bidding Goodbye to Meng Haoran on His Way to Guangling"

- Li Bai

My old friend's travelling from the East, at the Yellow Crane Tower,
In May down to Yangzhou amidst misty flowers;
The lone sail disappears into the distant blue skies empty -
Only the Yangtze, towards the horizon, is flowing ceaselessly.

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Frank Yue

My Wonderful Self-Healing Fridge!

It was over 18 years ago
When My wife and I moved into our condo
Apartment where all the appliances were there.
The frost-free fridge has been most faithful;
It gives us great satisfaction.
But a few years back, out of expectation,
The hard-working white fridge groaned loudly,
And roared and roared, day and night,
Like a small plane in flight!
Whilst hurriedly we shopped around
For a replacement, The fridge's roaring, to our amazement,
Was then reduced to that of an outboard motor, we found.

Better and better, the fridge ailing
Just appeared to be getting!

Anyway, we bought a small freezer upright-standing
To help the weakened fridge mending;
Ha, Haha! My big fridge white!
Weeks later, the fridge healed itself!
Except, my White Knight
Is no longer frost-free, alas!
A thick ice layer will gradually
Form beneath the top freezer box:
I have to scrape it off regularly.
Now, the old fridge still remain
A major item and a good friend in m'family;
We'd expect it'll do its work continuously.

Frank Yue

Nàlá Róng Ruò: Along The Road Home Shredding Leaves Slimming Woods Keep On ????? ??????, ???????

TUNE: Rú Mèng Lìng "Song Like A Dream"

TITLE: "Shredding leaves slimming woods keep on"

-by Nàlá Róng Ruò (1655-1685)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Along the road home shredding leaves slimming woods keep on;
The waning Moon and the morning breeze, where have they gone?
With little news and light on high, we're out of touch.
Mutual yearning tonight -O There is much!

Autumn rain, Autumn rain,
Away by the West Wind half's been blown (again) !

(22014.07.14)

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Frank Yue

Nalan Xingde: O! The Most Pitiful Thing In The Sky Is The Poor Moon ???? ????????

TUNE: Die Lian Hua

"BUTTERFLIES ROMANCING FLOWERS"

-by Nalan Xingde (1655-1685)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

O! The most pitiful thing in the sky is the poor Moon -
Once a month, she is full and bright like a piece of jade round.
But all other nights, to be waning or waxing she's found.
Like the clear dear Moon, you were all chaste and loving indeed.
I would freeze myself to drive away your feverish heat.

Alas, what mere mortals can do against their Destiny?
O! It was so easy for our secular union to cease!
The swallows still come, landing on the curtain hooks with ease.
Bird-songs o'er your grave: Autumn gone, but not my sorrows at this hour;
I would identify our Two Butterflies in the Spring flow'rs.

(2014.07.16)

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Frank Yue

Nàlán Xìngdé: Who Would Care I'm Engulfed Alone In Chilly West Wind Blowing? ????? ??????? ????????

TUNE: Huàn Qi Sha "Silk-Washing Stream"

(Memorial Song for Late Wife)

-by Nàlán Xìngdé (Nà Lá Róng Ruò) (1655~1685)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Who would care I'm engulfed alone in chilly West Wind blowing?
My slim windows almost covered by the yellow dead leaves flying.
In deep thoughts of past events, I stand in the red Sun sinking;

I used to be drunk in Spring, from sound sleep you would not wake me;
We played literary games to vie for the first cup of tea.
I thought then these were just ordinary things as things could be!

(2014.07.14)

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Frank Yue

Nestled In The Mid-Levels, Our Alma Mater Was Such Fun! ? ?????? ? ??????

(Chinese and English Poems by Frank C Yue)

Nestled in the mid-levels, our Alma Mater was such fun!
On the school playground then, a hundred different flavours did run.
Talented, most youthful Classmates were handsome, never said die;
For fifty years, lakes and oceans we have traversed far and wide.

Enterprising, we charged towards our goals, time and again, bravely;
High in spirits, we all believe man writes his own destiny.
Only through storms, in body and mind the resilient Grass trains;
Gathered in Hong Kong, we talk of yester- years come shine or rain.

(2013.09.25)

????????? (?????:2013.11.10 ??)

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Star River: The Traveller Wild Geese, Flying High, Pass Above In The Blue Sky ????? ??????? ????????

"Spring in Jiangnan"
-by Night Moon Star River
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The traveller wild geese, flying high,
Pass above in the blue sky;
Weeping willow ribbons rolling
Like waves when the east wind's blowing.

Bridgehead shallow water reflecting
Image of some green trees there standing;
Beyond the range, the slanting Sun
Paints up a patch of rich crimson.

(2016.06.12)

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Star River: Woods Are All Green In The Country-Side; In The Warm Sun, Searching For Scenes Fine ???? ???? ! ?????? ????????

TUNE: The Southern Village

TITLE: "Spring Sentiments"

A Palindrome Ci

- by Night Moon Star River

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Woods are all green in the country-side;
In the warm Sun, searching for scenes fine,
I ramble through the veil misting.
Willow threads, embankment aquamarine
Are washed clean when it's drizzling.
At the Bridge East,
O'er yonder shore are seen
Flying fowls chasing the light breeze.

With deep lament,
Flowers a-falling again.
Silently, with no one else to face,
The Moon hangs in empty space.
Inch by inch, the path serene -
Encroaching by bamboo shadows has been.
Hazily, in the courtyard small,
'Neath blue Doom, oriole serenades all.

(Reading the original ci from the last character backwards)

Tonight, beneath the blue Sky,
Oriole songs lift my heart high;
The small courtyard misting,
Bamboo shadows are invading.
Above the serene path flowery,
Hangs the full Moon silvery.
Quietly and noiseless,
Red petals fall with lament no less.

The soft breeze a-chasing

Away the birds winging;
The distant shore and East Bridge in sight -
They are shrouded by the rains light.
The embankment and willow threads green
Veiled by light mist are faintly seen.
Among green bush and woods in the Sun
I am searching for my Loved One.

(2016.06.16)

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Star River's Observing The Vast And Boundless Blue ?????????? ???????

"Leisure Living Song"
-by Night Moon Star River
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Observing the vast and boundless blue,
Space is deep and such a mystery.
Studying all human history,
I ponder th'past, present, future, too.

With Sun Yat-san's bold revolution,
Tyrant gone -people in celebration!
Alas, Motherland under the Red Tide -
Righteousness, morals just swept aside!

Drumming up Freedom, Democracy -
Let the National Spirit soar high!
Landing on a stout tree for the night,
Rest wise birds after a long flight.

Leaning on serene window with pride,
I see south mountain touching the sky.
Up mont east I climb to sing aloud;
Resonates in m'heart the brook's gay song.

A bosom friend comes casual along;
He plays the qin like water murmuring;
Scholars at riverside tower dining,
We write fine poems for long reciting.

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Starry River: Ceaseless, Away The Years Just Go; Our Heads Slowly Turn White Like So ???? ?? ????? ????????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) :
"Freedom Guy and Gal"
-by ???? 'Night Moon Starry River'
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Ceaseless, away the years just go;
Our heads slowly turn white like so.
Myriad miles of hills and rills I tour
With my sweet soulmate, my Love dear.

The scenes and colours of Nature fair -
Better than the masters' paintings fine.
Without anxiety, without care -
Free, of our life we enjoy the time!

(2014.08.20)

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Starry River: Cicadas Cry: Weeping Dew-Drops Wet The Bamboos ??????? ????????

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Ci-Shi Double Palindrome Poem:

A Unique "Transformer Chinese Poem" Readable in 4 Classical Forms

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Form No.1 (of 4) : 56-Character Qi Lu -

"Autumn Day in Countryside"

- by ???? 'Night Moon Starry River'

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Cicadas cry: weeping dew-drops wet the bamboos slim and tall;

The wide country fields dott'd by green willows, mulberries big and small.

Amid the hanging stream and blue ponds, Autumn birds a-chirping;

As chilly winds blow, wild geese and clouds fly in the evening.

In continual light rain, haze and smoke o'er the hills dispersing;

Silent the mountains and away the distant river's flowing.

In full Moon, both the gorge and serene path bathed in soothing light;

From among the tall grass engulfing the bank, sand-gulls take flight.

(The translator won't do the other 3 renditions (due to limited abilities.

Fortunately, the main theme remains the same.)

(2014.07.18)

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Starry River: For The '6/4' Martyrs At The Square Tears Fall Unrestricted! ???? ? ????? ?????????

Qi Jue: 28-Character-Quatrain
'National Catastrophes'
-by 'Night Moon Starry River'
-Translated by Frank C Yue (on '7/7' 2014)

The imperial Japanese savages nearly over-ran our Motherland,
The 10-year Cultural Revolution left us a ravaged land.
O! How many grievous harms my country has been inflicted?
For the '6/4' Martyrs at the Square tears fall unrestricted!

(2014.06.04)

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Starry River: In A Night Of A Pale Moon Among Thin Clouds ???? ??????????

Wu Lu: A Summer Night

-by ????'Night Moon Starry River'

In a night of a pale moon among thin clouds,

Different kinds of nature sounds can be heard continuously.

My Love sleeps sweetly;

Lotus flowers give off their faint scent fully.

Shining in the sky are clusters of stars;

Fishing lights on the river are bright afar.

As a gust blows in the bamboo wood,

It scares the birds perching on the shaking branches.

(2014.0801)

Fine poem in both c and e languages.

(just a thought -it appears the English rendition -in the poet's own words -may be slightly re-arranged into the "aa bb cc dd" rhyming scheme, thus :)

Among thin clouds in a night of the pale Moon round,

Heard continuously are the different Nature sounds.

My Beautiful Dreamer sleeps on sweetly;

Lotus flowers give off their faint scent fully.

Glittering in the sky are clusters of stars;

Fishing lights on the river are bright afar.

A sudden gust through the bamboo wood a-blowing,
It scares all the birds perched on the branches shaking.

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Starry River: In Year Jiawu, Hong Kong's Not In Peace ????? ??????? ????????

"The Kong Hong Students Movement"

-by ????? 'Night Moon Starry River'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In year Jiawu, Hong Kong's not in peace;

In sits the on-street Students Movement.

Cries clamouring for Democracy

Shake the Earth and reach the Firmament.

Standing up for Justice and Fairness,

Now who is afraid of Tyranny?

Umbrellas opening silently,

To block in-coming sprays and tear gas!

(2014.12.24)

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Frank Yue

Night Moon Starry River: The Moored Boats By The Ferry At The Country-Side ？？？ ？？？ ？？？ ？？？

TUNE: "Spring-Detention Ci"

TITLE: "River Village"

-by ？？？ 'Night Moon Starry River'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The moored boats by the ferry at the country-side
And all the trees by the setting Sun are red dyed,
While the crows in the chilly evening loudly cry.
Reflected on the wavy waters some sails returning,
So bright the coloured clouds glowing!
The in-coming tide rising,
The lapping waves a-groaning.

Softly falling in all the four directions, Dusk's shown;
The clouds and the mountains then join hands at this instance.
The fishermen's lights are flickering in the distance.
Winds sweeping through the layers of woods - parting leaves blown
Into disarray and oblivion.
As wild geese arrow past the clear skies,
By the river mansion the Moon shines.

(2014.07.)

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Night Moon Starry River; I Am Now Oblivious Of Affairs Worldly ??????????????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) : "Night"
-by ????'Night Moon Starry River'
-Translated by Frank C Yue

I am now oblivious of affairs worldly,
In the company of my lute and books for so long.
Who'd attend to my heart's voice the long night throughout?
Drunk with wine and mutual yearning, I sigh lonely.
Like the candle weeping till all its tears are gone,
I have no more tears as the candle light goes out.

(2014.07.)

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Frank Yue

Nine Birds: Of A Feather, They Flock Together, Hopping Down The Wayside ?????????? ???

TUNE: Xiang Jiàn huan

"Joy in Seeing Each Other"

TITLE: Buffalo Bird

(A long-and-short verse Ci)

- by ?? "Nine Birds"

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Of a feather, they flock together, hopping down the wayside,
Birds like doves.

For worms, closely he looks at her back hairs -her neck beside.

He chirps endless,

Pecks regret-less -

For the rewards, more-or-less.

A "win-win" Buffalo-Bird relationship, this symbiotic love.

(2013.10.12)

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Frank Yue

Nip All Latent Illness-Buds Well Before They Germinate; Exercise, And A Healthy Lifestyle Always Cultivate ?????? (1 0 3)

(1 Of 3)

Nip all latent "Illness buds" well before they germinate;
Exercise, and a healthy lifestyle always cultivate.

An 'Abridged' Quote from Huáng Dì Nèi Jīng?Sù Wèn:
"The Yellow Emperor's Classic of Internal Medicine"

- as written on a plaque at the Kwong Wah Hospital
Chinese Medicine Out-Patient Department in Hong Kong.

(2013.19.14)

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Frank Yue

No Desire Swordsman: Inching Towards The Sky-Edge, Sets The Sun E'ening ?????????? ??????????

Qi Jue: 28-Character Quatrain

“Countenance Painting”

-by ???? 'No Desire Swordsman'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Inching towards the sky-edge, sets the Sun e'ening;

She smiles gently at the ripples glistening.

Hazy sea: on the quiet railing we're leaning;

Engraved in my heart, myriad hues remaining!

(2014.07.11)

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Frank Yue

No Desire Swordsman: Swimming Dragons Racing, Foams Spray'd High, While Sounds Of Roaring Drums Reach The Sky ????? ??????? ????????

"Half a Day in Leisure"

-No Desire Swordsman

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Swimming dragons racing, foams spray'd high,
While sounds of roaring drums reach the sky;
Thousands of spectators cheering,
Along the shore they are dancing.

Now, eating the rice dumplings sticky,
Did the King like it sweet or salty?
At the bottom of the river crying,
Two thousand years loyal servant's been lying.

(2016.06.12)

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Frank Yue

November 11 - A Day Of Remembrance ??????? ?????

- by Frank C Yue

We remember those living and dead,

Whose uniforms were stained blood red,

Who gave of their lives freely,

So we may live in liberty.

Others suffered and gave so much;

Their valour and sacrifice are such -

The least we can do is never

Forget them and the fallen ones ever.

One's death either may be

Light as a feather,

Or heavy as a mountain.

What's your choice when you're going to

die?

You may not want to decide -

"The Light, for the others to see -

O Let mine be a fountain

Of hope and inspiration! "

(2015.11.01)

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Frank Yue

Numbers Couplet: 1 Palm Placed Flat, Fingers Pointing Yonder ?????????? ??????????-3 Long,2 Short: Of The 5 Digits All.

A WITTY "NUMBERS" COUPLET

- by Anon

- Translated by Frank C Yue

1 Palm placed flat, fingers pointing yonder -
3 long,2 short: Of the 5 digits all.

7-storey-high sacred Pagoda -
6 corners,8 directions and points 4.

(2013.10.15)

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Frank Yue

Nurture Your Qi And Calm Down Your Anger ?????? ??? ?? ?????? ??????

FOR THE WORLD WORDS OF ADMONITION

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Nurture your qi and calm down your anger;
Beware of your off-the-cuff talks.
Errors made in haste quietly ponder;
Be frugal with money or it just walks!

(2015.12.10)

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Frank Yue

O Talk Not To Me Of Jesus Or Qigong! If You Do, I'd Listen No More -No, I Won't

"O Talk not to me of Jesus or qigong!
If you do, I'd listen no more -No, I won't."

- A Poem by Frank C Yue

These two subjects are full of contention;
Surely, not for everyone's discussion.
It was years ago when several families
Were enjoying a square meal, then quite suddenly
A friend of mine gave me a piece of his mind...
-Certainly, I said softly, if you were so inclined.

And quite frankly, I was rather taken aback;
From m'self-adopted 'Do-Good Missions', I was sack'd.
I was taking care of his Well-being, physical -
As well as his everlasting Life, spiritual.
This seems rather 'sarcastical';
For the fact remains as follows -

A high achiever from a Christian high school fine,
His Biblical knowledge is far better than mine.
Yet, he chose to harden his heart,
To shut his ears to God's calling;
Thought in anything he's not wanting.
Now muted, I had tried my part.

As regards qigong, I have more to tell -
His wife suffered decades ago
A strange disease baffling so
That no western expert could make her well.
A herbalist they consulted,
As last resort, and resulted -

In an incredible speedy cure.
'Your wife's qi and blood need boosting; 'O dear! "
'When you're in bed -it's extremely simple, I'd say! -
Put your palms in a hollow triangle

O'er the 'Dantian' just below your navel;
Breathe gently through the nose in a relaxed way.'

'As you breathe in softly, and deeply,
The chest and belly should come up slowly.
As you breathe out it's almost effortless,
And with every breath you are truly bless'd.'
When her health was nursed back to norm
The wife just forgot or ignore

The advice given for self-help.
But the man's been practising that since then!
Once in the hours wee,
The guy was awakened by a sharp pain
In his left (or right?)knee;
Baffled, feeling helpless, calm he remain'd.

Remembering the good old herbalist's advice
- His name is You Long, the 'Itinerant Dragon'; -
Abdominal breathing he calmly tried.
From nowhere a 'mini-electric bolt' had gone
From within to 'strike' at the painful site;
Most of the pain then was gone, this despite.

You 'acted' like the hero of 'Kung Fu Hustle' in real life!
Wow! I could show you some advanced techniques, if you like.
'No, thank you! -an accomplished 'sihing' though you are!
I'm happy right now; talk qigong to me -just don't!
And learn any more qigong, I won't...'
So, when we meet we talk of other things: like his new car,
HDTV, the grand-kids... but not Jesus, nor qigong.

Helen Keller's most inspiring words just drift into mind:
'Once you've learned to soar, you will never consent to crawl.'
Ev'ryone ages and suffers countless ailments, you shall find.
Be best prepared for a fruitful Pilgrimage, shouldn't we all?

Helen Keller actually said:
'One can never consent to creep
when one feels an impulse to soar.'

What is so amazing with this story is that the Chinese herbalist, You Long, did not prescribe any herbal medicine to that particular patient (with a rather uncommon illness) . He simply sent his powerful internal energy -qi or chi -to the patient, without touching, for healing purposes. (Classical Chinese medical texts show that a handful of well-known Master Healers/Herbalists in different dynasties had been doing this for over a thousand years with good effects.)

I was most impressed with his extremely simple and brief instructions for the patient to do the easiest, safest and most comfortable form of qigong there is (if the practitioner is seated or lying in bed) :

"When you're in bed... -
Put your palms in a hollow triangle
O'er the 'Dantian' just below your navel;
Breathe gently through the nose in a relaxed way."

This is a v simple Taoist/Buddhist healing qigong for better health, to be performed standing, seated or lying in bed, or even while strolling in the park.

(2013.08.30)

Frank Yue

O! Could We Ever Find The Brave General Qi Again? ?

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(Chinese and English poems by Frank C Yue)

Diaoyu Tai, Huangyan Dao are sadly off limits -Why?
O'er occupied East China Sea isles, time flies by.
O! Could we ever find the brave General Qi again?
Quietly, quietly, the Great River's waves rush forth in vain!

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Frank Yue

Odd Couplet: I'd Enter The Garden Today ????????????

(???)???????????? (???)

AN ODD "WORD-REPLACEMENT" COUPLET

- by Song Qingling (1893-1981) and

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen (1866-1925)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

I'd enter the garden today,

Drag out (the Dictator) "Old Man" Yuan to free my country!

But, rambling on my rocky way,

No past deeds could help me for the long
trek ahead of me.

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Frank Yue

Of Precious Moving Body Parts, Use It Or Lose It! Take To Heart (1 Of 2)

Of Precious Moving Body Parts (1 Of 2)

On Life With Quality Time: Exercise Your Body And Mind (2 Of 2)

Of precious moving Body parts,
"Use it or lose it! " - Take to heart.
Always exercise Body, hands, and feet
And the 'CPU' brain, lest they be weak!
Love yourself, made in His image - Love well,
For Love comes from above, in our hearts dwells.

From all your confining 'snail homes', break out!
Calling senior folks, get out and about.
Away with lonely, gnawing Dark and Gloom;
For draining Melancholy, leave no room.
Why shut yourself in? The Sun's shining bright,
And the trees, grass and flowers all smell just right.

Now, vitamin 'D' everyone needs.
But our Body Temple can't indeed
Make it without the vital sun-light.
Germs, pathogens - 'D' helps you to fight!
Listen to happy birds' sweet songs;
Just tap your feet and hum along...

In your local park talk to your Friends;
A caring Word does heal without end!
Sometimes I pass by my park this way
At different hours of the 'life long' day.
Out come various kinds of users -
Old ladies on wheelchairs with pushers.

Pale, frail Lady struggles with the cane
And helping steady her is her Man.
They take their time: They are slow going.

Yet, all round, Love is overflowing!
Isn't that wonderful? Wouldn't you rather
Be an Angel to One Another?

After the storm: The Sun's always there shining still.
Smell the joyous, fine Lilies in the fields!
Fleecy high clouds sail free in the Blue,
Pretty Rainbow bows for me and you!
Look for and observe the most tiny things;
Ever wondered how Life bursts and takes wing?

With thankful hearts let's sing our Praises -
To the Creator who all life raises!
Don't allow our Holiness be undone -
Truly a Divine Being: We are, Each One!
Each granted a double-edged sword: Free Will,
And Free Choice, to win Life timeless fore'er still.

(2013.10.11)

... (2 Of 2)

Frank Yue

On Life With Quality Time: Exercise Body And Mind (2 Of 2)

Of Precious Moving Body Parts, Use It Or Lose It (1 Of 2)

On Life With Quality Time: Exercise Body And Mind (2 Of 2)

(1) «» (1) ON "LIFE WITH QUALITY TIME";:

Exercise Body and Mind -

Poems on Heath-care and Martial Arts

Poem No.1 of 3

- by Frank C Yue

, Exercise for a strong body;

Meditate to experience Harmony.

, Heav'n and Earth move in space ocean;

Man, likewise, in constant motion.

, When your qi, blood, air and wastes circulations are good,

Your vibrant hair and complexion will glow as they should.

, Train today, and more, each new day;

Establish a daily routine.

, With your qi flowing strong and mind serene,

One just lives long and keeps Illness at bay.

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Frank Yue

On The Motherland I Look Around, Where, O Where Is My Hometown? ??????? ???????

"Cold Winter"

-by EngFish

Frigid winds and flying snows are chasing
The graying pink-clouds in the Morning;
The Moon sets: it becomes frosty -
In entrapment, all the crows sleepy.
A wanderlust on his journey, again -
In loneliness, tears fall like rain in vain.
On the Motherland I look around,
Where, O where is my hometown?

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Frank Yue

On The Yangguan Road

"Bidding High Official Zhao Farewell"
- translation of a Tang poem

On the Yangguan road,
To the West for thousands of miles stretching,
Not a single soul is seen returning;
As Autumn takes its toll,
Only the wild geese by the river-side
To the South are preparing to fly.

Frank Yue

One Little Kind Thought With Great Love Would Send One To Heaven Above: ?????,?????

A Buddhist Saying

-Translated by Frank C Yue

One little kind thought with great love
Would send one to Heaven above.

One evil venom thought in stealth
Could well condemn one straight to Hell.

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: A Lake So Full Of Spring Vitality, A Lake Also Full Of Serenity ????? ?????? ????????

West Lake Sentiments

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

A lake so full of Spring vitality,
A lake also full of serenity -
Alone, I do stand here by the railing
At restaurant with fine food offering.
Where has my Beauty of Yesterday gone?
High above me, the bright Moon still shines on.

(2016.05.02)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: A Wooden Hut With Sheets Of Zinc Crowned ???? ??????? ????????

Qiji: 28-Character Quatrain"Childhood"
- by 'A Man of Advanced Years'
- Translated by Frank C Yue

A wooden hut with sheets of zinc crowned -
Cold in Winter, hot in Summer -
Through the cracks one could see the dome round;
Most times it was much better
Under the stars to slumber.

Fierce Typhoons came with torrential rains
(And the danger of mud slides) :
Life at stake - e'eryone was under strain.
Gritting our teeth, we strove and strove,
Until we reached all our goals!

(2014.08.02)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: After The Tears Are Dry, Only Traces Remain ?????????? ??????????

Poem No.78

Qi Jué?Qi Liu: The Seven-Word Verse -
The Piteous Willow:A Palindrome Poem
-by ????? One Old Man
-Translated by Frank C Yue

A. (Original Poem Read Normally from Front to End -)

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The withering Willow, with its branches weeping,

The gloomy darkening Cold is a-sweeping.

Alone, along the lonesome embankment I walk;

Only by my own shadow my body is stalk'd.

By the railing, gazing at the distant snow-capped hill -

I take in all the miseries, m'tears are dry, until.

B.(Original Poem Read in Reverse from End to Front -)

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After the tears are dry, only traces remain;

I have seen all those piteous scenes in vain.

I am viewing the faraway white-haired mountain

As I lean against the railings, row after row;

On the lonesome embankment -where no one now goes -

Chilling Gloominess hits the branches at

the side;

The weeping Willow just gives out sighs after sighs!

(2013.11.26.)

Frank Yue

One Old Man: Again, Seeing Red Trees Covering The Hills And Woods Wild???? ????????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) : "Sending My Unilateral Love"
- by '????'A Man of Advanced Years'
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Again, seeing red trees covering the hills and her to see?

I think of my Loved One at the other end of the sky.

O! Dear Autumn Wind, would you please, please have pity on me?

Blow, blow this piece of maple leave afar for her to see?

(2014.07.20)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: At The Sportive Dragon Boats Race ???

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"Holiday"

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

At the sportive Dragon Boats race
All the paddles are flying high;
Everyone, young and old, does pine
For this leisurely holiday.

Friends and families are gathering
For socializing and cheering;
Who would recall the days of glory
When one's right or wrong in history?

(2016.06.10)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: Beyond The Restaurant, The Mountains Far'way In The Golden Setting Sunlight Are Bath'd ??? ? ??????? ???????

TUNE: The Heavenly Fairy Ci (Song)

TITLE: "The Hangzhou Restaurant at Evening"

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Beyond the restaurant, the mountains far'way
In the golden setting sunlight are bath'd.
Below, welcoming their guests willow ribbons sway.
The distant mountains and fertile lake flashing,
Also welcome the in-coming geese flying.
Autumn here is sunny,
Autumn here is crispy.
O Stay, Pretty E'ening, stay!
Let us drink in all your lovely ways!

(2016.05.09)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: Blue Hills Upon Blue Hills Surrounded By The Green Water Still???? ?????? ????????

Lone Fisher Angling in the Cold

- by One Old Man

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Blue hills upon blue hills

Surrounded by the green water still;

Layers upon layers of mist pale

Appear like a cold veil.

Lone fisher in a boat with line long,

The river breeze just moves him along.

(2016.04.27)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: By The Breeze The Fragrance Carried Far

TUNE: "Remembering Jiangnan" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "Apricot Blossoms"

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

By the breeze the fragrance carried far;
Luxuriant the apricot flowers in March.
When they first bloom they fill up the branch whole;
Their colour better than fire, like so.

Dressed just simply,
Their red is not loud blatantly.
When the apricot blossoms fall
Following the wind they're no more.

(2016.05.17)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: Ceaselessly Twisting And Dancing, The Swift Dragon A-Swimming ????? ??????? ????????

TUNE: "The Heavenly Fairy" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "The Musical Fountain at West Lake"

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Ceaselessly twisting and dancing,
The Swift Dragon a-swimming -
In the blink of an eye,
It becomes a Golden Snake
That around one's fingers entwines.

Thousands of colourful pillars high
Are projected into the night sky;
Following music (that makes one's heart sing) ,
They are now on the wing!
Marvellous performance yet so serene -
Attracting the spectators' eyeballs at e'ery scene!

(2016.05.16)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: Fish Farm ?????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ?????????

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Softly, softly blows the morning breeze,

The green willows to dance, teaching.

Loving Colour'd Clouds at evening

Want to embrace the Setting Sun free.

Schools of Fish the Moon a-chasing

In scatter'd gold, playful as can be -

While scholars and exiles care-free

All merrily make poetry.

(2015.11.03)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: I Watch The First Light In The Morning Among The Willow Ribbons Peeping ??? ?????? ?????? ??

"Living in Jiangnan"

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

I watch the first light in the morning
Among the willow ribbons peeping;
Burning evening clouds I admire,
That set all the western skies on fire.

Brimming lake water aquamarine,
O It is so soothingly green;
Covering half of the smokey hill,
A lone cloud is drifting away still.

(2016.06.02)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: I'm Boating And Would Go Under Bridge Blue ????? ??????? ????????

Ice Cream

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

I'm boating and would go under Bridge Blue;
Have no intention of seeing You.
Spring waves bouncing to and fro softly,
O E'erywhere I look -eye candies!

(2016.05.05)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: In A Lifetime How Many Times Will One See The Red Setting Sun? ????? ??????????????????

`The Setting Sun`

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In a lifetime how many times
Will one see the red Setting Sun?
Silently, past events away
Like the fleeing winds did fly;
Sparring with `cold weapons` today -
Reminiscing tomorrow what the poets have done,
As of now, we would still have much fun!

(2015.05.24)

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Translator`s Note:

As indicated in the original Chinese poem, the `cold weapons` above include -

1. The Old Mans` swift Broadsword -?;
2. An unnamed combatant`s fabulous Spear -?;
(Could this be Shake-Speare?Haha!)
3. Golden Bow`s deadly Arrows -?.

One Old Man: In A Lone Boat A Fisher Is Angling In The Snowy River??? ?????? ????????

Palindrome Poem: Angling in the Snow

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

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In a lone boat a fisher
Is angling in the snowy river;
Beneath the hazy waves boundless
The green water's flowing ceaseless.

With jade branches and icy trunks,
Everywhere is white in sight;
The distant hills and e'erything still
Are covered by crystals bright.

(2016.05.01)

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(Reading the original Chinese poem from the last character backwards :)

By crystal all things are dressed tight,
Including snowy mountains far'way;
Icy branches and tree trunks white,
Everything's in white jade bright.

The flowing stream and the waves green,
Hazy smoke spreading out forever -
In a lone boat a lonely fisher
Can be seen angling the cold river.

Frank Yue

One Old Man: Locked In By The Clouds The Green Mountain

Waiting for the Moon to Ride the Waves

- by One Old Man

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Locked in by the clouds the green mountain,

Locked in by leisure the boat;

Going with the flow along I float,

Drunk with fine scenes like a wine fountain.

Beyond the ranges the Sun's setting-

Will you be coming home soon?

Above the rolling waves waiting -

Until I've a glimpse of the bright Moon.

(2016.05.01)

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One Old Man: The Broadsword Cuts Ferociously ???? ? ??????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) : 'Fighting';

- by 'A Man of Advanced Years'

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The broadsword cuts ferociously
As the fast arrows fly blithely.
After fighting several rounds,
Still there is (strangely) not a sound.
Each move, each strike, quick as lightning;
With their all they are focusing.

(2014.07.24)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: The Distant Water Misting ??? ????? ????

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Palindrome Poem: Returning in My Boat in the Evening

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

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Returning in My Boat in the Evening -

The distant water misting

Links up with the clouds and sky;

Alternate bands of green fine

And layers of hilly peaks entwined.

Lull'd by e'ening clouds, sunlight's fading,

The mountains humming the lullaby.

Sleepy sea-gulls do about fly,

Bidding homeward bound boats good-bye.

(2016.05.01)

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(Reading the original Chinese poem from the last character backwards :)

In-coming boats bid E'ening good-bye,

And homing sea-gulls in chaos fly;

In dreams, the hills and e'ening clouds -

Dim Sun a-setting (no longer loud) .

Layer 'on layer of peaks are seen

Entangled with bands of woods green;

Clouds and the skies link up faraway,

The distant waters just hazy stay.

Frank Yue

One Old Man: The Lute Is A-Playing Song After Song

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To the Tune of: Xi Jiang Yuè: West River Moon

Title: Hán Lóu: Cold Mansion (Ci No.84)

-by ??? A Man of Advanced Year

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The lute is a-playing song after song;

Far, far away, the joyful notes drift along.

With the No-Desire Swordsman's talents shown,

It's like countless ripples from a stone thrown.

Fishing alone in the cold stream, fear not -

With reflection, to be there two boats ought.

With Golden Bow's swords, mace, spear and arrows,

Open a blog and your Muse will follow.

(2013.12.04)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: The Sun Setting And Clouds Glowing Weave Out A Colourful Sky ????? ??????? ????????

"Evening Sun over West Lake and Mountains"

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Sun setting and clouds glowing
Weave out a colourful sky;
The lake and mountains a-misting
In growing gloom by and by.

How many tourists harbouring
The thought of home returning?
If I'm not drunk with the fine scenes,
I'd be drunk with the evening breeze.

(2016.055.27)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: When Speculative Winds Blow ???? ???? ???? ???? ?

TUNE: "Spring-Detention Ci"
TITLE: "Sea of Stocks and Shares"
- by 'A Man of Advanced Years'
- Translated by Frank C Yue

When speculative winds blow
Giant waves rule in the choppy sea.
Who will then survive, O let's see!
In the Stocks Sea one goes with the flow -
Be it rising,
Be it diving,
So brave in chasing
And quick in selling.

When the market keeps on climbing,
Up and up on its way,
Everyone, drugged, keeps on dreaming -
Ah, I'll be filthy rich any day!
When it crashes the money's gone -
It's scary as scary can be!
So hurt is everyone's proud bravery,
The spirit's hijack'd by a sad song!

(2014.07.24)

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One Old Man: When Spring Bids Adieu, Fallen Flow'rs Left With Waters Running???? ????????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) :

"Precious Treasure"

-by 'A Man of Advanced Years'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

When Spring bids adieu, fallen flow'rs left with waters running;
The fair Beauty in white-hair age can't help sadly frowning.
Even at the golden Sunset hour, it's still not too late -
Don't Wait! When soulmate's gone, your grieving shadow you'll berate!

«?????»???? (Poem No.324)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: With A Bright Moon Plus Winds Refreshing-How Many Times Can One Be Blessed? ??? ????????? ????????

"Bright Moon and Refreshing Winds"
-by One Old Man
-Translated by Frank C Yue

With a bright Moon plus winds refreshing -
How many times can one be blessed?
Her crystal whispers like the rain
Make me joyous time and again.

The jade cup and the Beauty striking
Are each completely matchless.
Were I not drunk with her eyes divine,
I would be drunk with the fine wine.

(2016.06.01)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: Years Ago Today, My Whip Raised, On My Galloping Stallion The Bright Moon I Chased ????? ??? ????????

Tune: (Word-Reduced)Magnolia Lily

Title:"Looking Back"

-by ??? 'A Man of Advanced Years'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Years ago today, my whip raised,
On my galloping stallion the bright Moon I chased!
At the west mansion this day,
Just cool breeze o'er wine cup - No Desire is my way.

Where's my heroic spirit gone?
Time will ne'er return; silently it marches on.
Whilst a-dreaming at mid-night,
Of wild-geese o'er the ocean, I envy the flight.

(2014.08.02)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man:By The Breeze The Fragrance Carried Far; Luxuriant The Apricot Flow`rs In March???? ???? ? ????

TUNE: "Remembering Jiangnan" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "Apricot Blossoms"

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

By the breeze the fragrance carried far;
Luxuriant the apricot flow`rs in March.
When they first bloom they fill up the branch whole;
Their colour better than fire, like so.

Dressed just simply,
Their red is not loud blatantly.
When the apricotblossoms fall
Following the wind they`re no more.

(2016.05.17)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man:Gone With The Wind And Stream Is Your Shadow Fair ????? ???????

YOUR SHADOW FAIR

-by One Old Man

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Gone with the wind and stream is your shadow fair,

Flow'rs fall and by sunset the branch is bare.

South-flying geese have long pass'd in the sky;

Soundless waves console the lonely soul o'mine.

(2015.12.01)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man: Mist Surrounding The Lake At Evening, The Sun In The Last Leg Of Flight???? ??????? ????????

"Shadows of West Lake Sightseeing"
-by One Old Man
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Mist surrounding the lake at evening,
The Sun in the last leg of flight -
On the bridge by the embankment
I watch the boats returning.

From Nanping Temple in concealment
Clear tolls of the bell are heard at night;
The lake's Three Lamps, in the New Moon's sway,
Flash broken gold shadows on the waves.

(2016.05.12)

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Frank Yue

One Old Man's Cold Winds, Bitter Rains - Dream-Making's In Vain ????? ????????

To the Tune of: Yu Mei Ren: "Fair Lady Yu"
Title: Han Ye: "Cold Night" (Ci) No. 85
-by ??? "A Man of Advanced Year"
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Cold winds, bitter rains - dream-making's in vain;

O My tangled thoughts were seeded by whom?

Gradually fading are once again

Scenes and things of yester-year home.

I do regret that the tender frowns,

Slow anger could no longer be found.

With you and I each at two ends of the Skies now,

How I envy the wild geese winging by the clouds!

While life is uncontrollable,

It can still be sentimental.

Faintly off the eaves, I hear,

The rain-drops till Dawn is here.

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Frank Yue

One Old Man's Palindrome Poem: A Group Of Mountains High Surrounds A Single Eagle Fine ????? ? ????

Qi Jué?Jiù Hóng:

"7-Word Verse: Eagle Rainbow" (Poem No.80)

- A 7-Character Chinese Palindrome Poem:

"A Group of Mountains High

Surrounds A Single Eagle Fine

That's So Small in the Dark-Blue Sky"

-by ???? "One Old Man"

-Translated by Frank C Yue

A group of mountains high

Surrounds a single eagle fine -

A mere speck in the dark-blue sky.

Tiny eagle in the blue sky

O'er the colourful rainbow flies;

Rainbow, straddling the sky and all,

Makes the eagle look dark and small.

High up the empty, dark-blue sky

A tiny, fine eagle does fly

Circles `round the group of mountains high.

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Frank Yue

Ouyang Xia ??? ?????? ?????????? ??????????

Funny Couplet

-(allegedly) by (a youthful)OUYANG XIU (1007-1072)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Opening early the city gates,
Closing the city gates late -
Awaiting for passers-by to pass by.

Setting the 'couplet test' is quite easy,
It's hard to 'answer', for which one would thirst -
You are the 'first-born': Would Teacher try first?

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Frank Yue

Palindrome Couplet: Guests Up The Nature Harvest Restaurant Are Ascending ?????? ??????

Palindrome Chinese Couplet

(at a famous tavern/restaurant in yesteryear Canton)

- by Anon

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Guests up the Nature Harvest Restaurant are ascending;

Holy Cow! They are celestial visitors descending!

(2013.09.08)

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Frank Yue

Pierre Wrinkle: At The Seniors Poets Club Gathering What A Session Of Singing And Playing ??? ??????? ?? ????? ??????? ???????

"Let's Sing and Play! "
-by "Pierre Wrinkle"
-Translated by Frank C Yue

At the Seniors Poets Club gathering
What a session of singing and playing -
Beneath the surface of water rushing
Their colourful scales gay FISH are flashing.
Young Cowgirl, born under the MOON in July,
Temporarily in Hong Kong resides.

LIGHTNING is hiding behind the black CLOUD,
When the THUNDER roars it is mighty loud.
Care-free Ronin's SWORD was in England made,
The local silver BROADSWORD, OLD China made.
Pellet, arrow -ready on the BOW of the Hunter;
Rising to dance, CROWS in the four directions scatter!

(2016.05.29)

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Translator's Note:

Pen-names of the Club Members mentioned are:

line 2: ??

line 3: ???

line 4: ????

line 5: ????

line 6: ????

line 7: ??

line 8: ???

Frank Yue

Prince Dan: Once From Here To Go He Does Turn - Ne'er Shall The Fearless One Return! ??????? ????????

“Whoosh! Whoosh! ’—the fierce winds blow;
-(Attributed to) Prince Dan of the Yan Kingdom
-Translated by Frank C Yue

‘Whoosh! Whoosh! ’— the fierce winds blow;

The Yi River water's so cold.

Once from here to go he does turn -

Ne'er shall the Fearless One return!

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Frank Yue

Qi Jiguang: For Our Supreme Emperor, I Galloped North And South???

MA ZHANG ZUO ("Composed on Horseback")

-by Qi Jiguang (1528-1588)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

For our supreme Emperor, I galloped north and south;
'Midst river flowers, the border grass, aloud I laughed out!
Now then, three hundred sixty days out of each year -
I'm riding, spear in hand, my trusted war horse dear.

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Frank Yue

Qin Guan: At City West, Spring Breeze Plays With Willow Leaves, Sets In Motion ?? ????????,

TUNE: JIANG CHENG ZI:

"City by The River"

-by QIN GUAN (1049 -1100) -Translated by Frank C Yue

At City west, Spring breeze plays with willow leaves, sets in motion
My grieving separation emotion,
And of tears, an ocean!
My Beloved, remember when,
On your return, I tied the boat then
By the Red Bridge and the fields were green.
Now, you are gone, never to be seen!
Waters just flow in vain, it'd seem.

Life's prime and pretty flowers for youth shall never stay,
Ceaseless sorrow just comes this way.
O When will Sorrow be away?
In the air, catkins and wilted petals fly;
Alone, I climb the tower on high.
Were the whole Spring river my tears,
They'll flow for endless years -
Boundless Sorrow ensnares!

(2013.10.06)

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Frank Yue

Qin Shaoyou Loop Poem: Quietly I Think Of My Lady Fine -My Return Date's Been Delayed For So Long ?? ? ??????f

A 7-Character JUEJU (4-Lined Verse)Loop Poem:
"QUIETLY, I THINK OF MY LADY FINE -
MY RETURN DATE'S BEEN DELAYED FOR SO LONG"
- by QIN SHAOYOU (Song Dynasty)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Quietly I think of my Lady fine -
My return date's been delayed for so long;
My return date's been delayed for so long,
Sadly then our parting comes to mind.

Sadly then our parting comes to mind,
When the water-clock's heard loud and strong.
When the water-clock's heard loud and strong,
Quietly I think of my Lady fine.

(2013.09.11)

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Frank Yue

Qin Shaoyou The Oriole's Beak Pecks At The Red Flow'r That Sparkles ?? ?????? ??????

TUNE: Rú Mèng Lìng "Song Like A Dream"

TITLE: "The oriole's beak pecks at the red flow'r that sparkles"

- by QIN SHAOYOU (Northern Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The oriole's beak pecks at the red flow'r that sparkles;
The swallow's tail scissors out the green waves' wrinkles.
With cold fingers, she plays the jade Sheng chilly,
Bathing the chill'd plum tree with warm memories.
It's just like before, like before -
Both m'Lady and the willow green, thin ever-more!

(2014.07.21)

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Frank Yue

Qing Ho: Lean Clouds And Light Winds Pass Me By; Near Is The Noon Hour?? ??????? ???????

Chun Rì Ou Chéng

“Casual Encounter on One Spring Day”

-by Qing Ho (Song dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Lean clouds and light winds pass me by; near is the noon hour.

I come to a stream following the willows and flow'rs.

Now people know not the joy that leaps up in my heart,

Thinking I'm lazy, acting out the youth's listless part.

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Frank Yue

Qiu Jin: Down The Slope Slippery Sliding Is M'beloved Country! ?? ??????? ????????

"Down the slope slippery
Sliding is m'beloved Country! "
- by Qiu Jin(1875~1907)
the first female Chinese revolutionary martyred
towards the dying days of the Manchu Dynasty
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Down the slope slippery
Sliding is m'Beloved Country!
There goes my lament boundless -
I need to seek and find
More like-minded Comrades fine,
While travelling aboard listless.
The broken golden vase, you see,
Soon mended it must be.
For my Country: Die
Willingly will I!

So lonesome, with obstacles in piles,
For thousands of miles,
Upon thousands of miles,
I will trudge on un-beguiled.
O Do not ever tell me -
Fighting as well as men, women can't be!
My sharp sword hanging on the wall each night
Cries out most eagerly for a good fight!

(2014.08.11)

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Frank Yue

Seven Month Star: Threads Of Numerous Concerns - Like Drifting Catkins On Both Shores ??? ??????? ???? ???

"Iron Man of Fragrant River"
-by Seven Month Star
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The green vines and the bamboo shadows
Beside quiet curtains and windows;
White cloud -there's not a single one
For thousands of miles in the Red Sun.

Threads of numerous concerns -
Like drifting catkins on Both Shores;
Speaking the Truth, the Iron Man,
Patriotic feelings fore'ermore.

(2016.06.22)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: After The Rain, The Blue Skies Again! ??? ??????? ????????

Tune: The Fisherman's Song

Title: The Mountain Woman

- by Seven Moon Star

- Translated by Frank C Yue

After the rain, the blue skies again!
The Sun shows its bright face slowly.
The winds have died, quiet are the trees,
The birds a-singing merrily!
The clouds and mists a-fading still -
Unveiled is the town on the hill.
The lake so smooth like a mirror,
Reflecting the clear skies above -
I feel like a poet,
Inspired with awe and love!

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: Certain Death The Middle-Aged Mother Is Facing ??????? ????????

Qi Jue: Legends of the Fragrant River

Poem Dedicated to Ms. Momo Cheng and Captain Yau Siu-ming

-by Seven Moon Star

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Certain death the middle-aged mother is facing;
To save a stranger's life the selfless young woman
Two-thirds of her liver willingly sacrificing.

Trying to save a hiker, the brave fireman did fall;
Grieving, the people bid him a fond, teary farewell.
In the world the Fragrant City stands proud and tall.

(2017.04.17)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: China Is Beautiful -Sounds Of Many Drums Beating ??? ??? ????? ????????

TUNE: "Dreaming of Jiangnan" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "The China Dream"

-by Seven Moon Star

-Translated by Frank C Yue

China is beautiful -
Sounds of many drums beating,
Patriotic songs singing
Are now heard everywhere.
To purge the wicked and the corrupt we dare!

Government and people joining hands,
With one firm resolve throughout the land -
Let there be no more delays;
With support there will be great accolades.

(2015.05.)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: Hong Kong Is Fabulous, For All Seasons The Scenes Are Aqua-Marine ??? ????? ????? ??

TUNE: "Remembering Jiangnan" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "Ode to the Fragrant River"

-by Seven Moon Star

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Hong Kong is fabulous,
For all seasons the scenes
Are aqua-marine.
The rills sparkling, hills inviting,
Just like a pretty painting.

A hundred glamorous flowers -
Violet, red and yellow:
For countless generations the fine hours
Of Good Fortune, Prosperity will follow.

(2016.5.17)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: Setting Sun O'er The Misty Sea- It's Getting Hazy More And More ??? ??????? ????????

"Hazy Evening Clouds"

-by Seven Moon Star

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Setting Sun o'er the misty sea -
It's getting hazy more and more;
The long embankment along the shore
Is chilled at night by the cold breeze.

To find warm dreams tired birds returning -
The tourists are fading away;
Homewards bound they're all hurrying.

(2016.05.22)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: Since Childhood The Two Of Us Have Been Playmates And Friends???

TUNE: "Spring-Detention Ci"

TITLE: "Green Plum Song"

-by 'Seven Moon Star'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Since childhood the two of us have been playmates and friends;

Softly, we listened to what the flowing streams have to say.

Running we had done

Down the hills, through the woods, as one!

Together we gaze long at the Milky Way,

Gleaming with dots of twinkling stars without end.

My Cupid dear, with your darts,

Please, please just pierce our twin hearts!

Visiting my friend child-hood,

Year after year, the past lives on.

Here, my friend, we do meet again -

Laughing at old events (-as if in a song) .

What a joy, and they're ne'er in vain!

Good for recalling, as they should.

(2014.07.22)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: The Fragrant City In Summer Days Is In Scented Breeze Bathed???

"Fragrant City during Summer Days"
-by Seven Moon Star
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Fragrant City in Summer days
Is in scented breeze bathed;
Glamorous flowers and shades green,
Red blossoms bedeck every tree.

Screaming birds and crying cicadas
Together make, noisy sounds rather.
Flash floods and sudden showers
Play out a symphony at that hour.

(2016.06.15)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: The Long Spring Rains Blot Out The Sun, Of The Gay Blue Bird Song There's None! ??? ??? ?? ?????

TUNE: "Waves Scouring Sands" Ci

TITLE: Fragrant City Rudely Awaken'd from Her Dream

-by ??? 'Seven Moon Star'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The long Spring Rains blot out the Sun,
Of the gay Blue Bird song there's none!
Remembering the past sadly,
Could we see the Future clearly?
It's a World chaotic and fuzzy,
Is it Black, White or Gray?
It's difficult to say.

Governance by "Elite Masters",
Life was quite good in the old days.
Stable socio-economic:
The City prosper'd in all her ways,
And People did care for each other.
From her Sweet Dream awaken'd rudely -
O Bless please our Fragrant City!

(2014.10.26)

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Seven Moon Star: The Spring Birds, In Their Steps Dancing ??? ??????? ????????

TUNE: "Sky Full of Partridges" Ci

TITLE: The Voice of The Students

-by ??? 'Seven Moon Star'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The Spring birds, in their steps dancing,

Hop along branches here and there;

They all enjoy Life with their might,

Happily chirping and singing.

At Admiralty everywhere,

Sad-looking Students are in sight.

With their tents, striving for Fairness

Night after night, they're all sleepless.

Startled from their dreams huge,

O The night stars so few.

They search their Hearts with quiet

questions,

Hoping for a Future Connection!

Democracy for the Fragrant City,

Though a long hard strife by no means

easy,

They will carry on striving and trying;

Till they succeed, Home they won't be
going.

(2014.10.24)

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Frank Yue

Seven Moon Star: When Starry Night On The City Falls Glamorous Hues Light Up The Sky All ??? ?????? ? ????????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) :
"Hong Kong at Night"
-by ??? Seven Moon Star
-Translated by Frank C Yue

When starry Night on the City falls
Glamorous hues light up the sky all -
Like dragons and phoenixes dancing,
And beautiful fairies descending!
The myriad bright glittering neon signs
Make the Hong Kong Night-Life never die!

(2014.08.04)

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Frank Yue

Seven Star Moon's In Between The Clear Skies And The Deep Green Ocean ??? ????????

TUNE: 'My Inner Feelings Out-Poured'

TITLE: "Inconstancy"

-by??? 'Seven Star Moon'

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In between the clear skies and the deep green ocean,

The proud sea-gulls glide slowly in graceful motion.

In the horizon, of white sails there are dots and dots;

The sea breeze is so warm and the bright Sun, so hot!

But, all of a sudden, thunders and lightnings strike!

Frightened, all the birds swiftly fly out of sight.

It just keeps on raining cats and dogs -non-stop!

The in-coming sky-high waves are crashing,

In a twinkling, the weather a-changing!

Life's quite unpredictable as it ought.

(2014.07.29)

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Frank Yue

Sima Tu's Fine Wine He Bought, From A Jade Vase He's Drinking???? ????

"Poetry Appreciation: Elegance" No.6 (of 24)

-by Sima Tu (Tang Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Fine wine he bought, from a jade vase he's drinking;
Inside the thatched hut, the rain he's admiring.
Seated at centre, the scholar is seen;
To his left and right are slim bamboos green.

Now flanked by white clouds, out again comes the Sun,
Out and about, the valley birds play as one.
Lying in the shade, his qin is his pillow;
Above him, the cliffside by waterfalls furrow'd.

Flowers wither and fall with not a word in Autumn,
He stands with elegant ease like the chrysanthemum.
When all this is made into verse,
About them people may converse.

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Frank Yue

Simple Self-Help Health-Care Techniques Regulating The Mind, Posture And Breath ?????????? ?????

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THE "QIGONG 3 REGULATIONS" SONG:

Simple Self-help Health-care Techniques

(based on Traditional Chinese Medicine principles)

- by Frank C Yue

? ? Prologue

????

No thoughts -shut out monkey chatters quietly;

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Be not afraid -have no desire, no care.

????

Into the abdomen breathe naturally;

????

The breath should be soft, light, deep, slow and fair.

????

The "Three Regulations" are inter-link'd

????

One runs into the others, like a chain.

(1) ?? (?) (1) REGULATING THE MIND (Consciousness/Mental State)

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When the heart is truly at ease

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Then your mind will follow in peace.

????

Fill you mind with good intentions;

????

You'll enjoy joyful satisfaction.

????

With a calm meditative mind

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Qi flows continuous and easy.

????

You'll naturally find

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You're thankful and happy.

(2) ?? (?) (2) REGULATING THE POSTURE

????

Relax muscles, joints and the whole body;

????

You'll feel lightness, comfort and easy.

????The body is relaxed but not sloppy;

????The skeletal frame's firm but not rigid.

????With correct posture, qi flows smoothly -

????The spirit's bright; qi flow isn't choppy.

????With a mind serene, you're completely at rest;

????With blood and qi flowing free, you are blest.

(3) ?? (3) REGULATING THE BREATH

????

Breathe deep, evenly, slowly and softly;

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To make adjustments to your breathing.

????

Lengthening your soft breath makes you free

????

Of stress and gives you back a "care-free me"!

????

Breathing long and slow, you feel leisurely;

????

Smooth breath snuffs monkey chatters quietly.

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With soft deep breath, Harmony is won;

????

Nature and Man are united as One.

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1. ?? (???) : ????? ?

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3. ?? (??):?? ? ???

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The Three Regulations: `Gate` of Simultaneously Training

1. Regulating The Mind - Intentions: The Mind.

Clean the hands, pure the heart.

2. Regulating The Posture - Relaxation: The Body.

3. Regulating The Breath - Breath: Your Vital Energy.

(2013.08.20)

Caution:

Qigong is NOT for everyone to train, especially if one wants to do it on his own, without the guidance and supervision by an experienced instructor/teacher.

A beginner simply doesn't know which style/method is best for her conditions and what are the DO's and DON'Ts, the basic requirements, the beginning and ending procedures, and potential pitfalls, etc. If you have ADHD and are often emotional and mentally unstable, or your family has a history of mental illness, for example, you should not practise (since at some stage you might experience hallucinations, vivid daydreams, or "uncontrollable" involuntary vigorous body movements, etc.)

In short, if you don't feel comfortable about it, just don't do it.

(At the highest levels after a number of years of consistent practice, those weak in willpower and with less than pure thoughts might be led unconsciously towards the supernatural and the occult.

You have been warned.)

Frank Yue

Since Times Of Old, The Great Beauties -Like Gen'ral's "Victorious-Ever"; ??? ??????? ????????

Since times of old, the Great Beauties -
Like Gen'ral's "Victorious-Ever";,
To grow old (-because of duty)-
They are simply allowed never.

(2013.10.12)

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Frank Yue

Stand On One Leg Like The Crane Resting - (1 Of 3)

(1 Of 3)

(2 Of 3)

(3 Of 3)

Stand on one leg like the crane resting -
If you're not already doing this
You yourself should start training,
Or teach your children to do it!
Naturally, you'd want to know why?
This shall give you strong legs for life!

Why so?

The benefits are multiple!
First, by standing on one leg only,
You're forcing your leg muscles
To grow stronger and stronger
To support the whole body.

You should of course train the other leg as well -
Then Good Health and Fitness with you will dwell.
As you're advancing in age year after year,
Past your prime, your heart, a mechanical pump, will suffer -
The hands and the legs are the body's extremities;
With less nutrients in supply the legs face more difficulties.

Secondly, standing on one leg allows you
To develop a keen
Sense of balance, this means
You're not so prone to falling
When you're walking or even running.
Falls and accidents would likely avoid you, too.

Thirdly, standing on one leg only
Is a form of internal training -
This trains simultaneously
Your body, spirit and mind!
It's also a form of quiet meditation:
Inner peace, purity of heart you will find!

Fourthly, standing on one leg only -
One of the basics of martial arts training certainly.
This strengthens your lower section,
Fosters a firm, immovable foundation -
A platform from which you can launch powerful kicks to forestall
Attacks by in-coming assailants in directions all.

Frank Yue

Su Dongbo's Ci: The Water Melody Song ?? ????? ???? ?

Tune: "The Water Melody Song" Ci

Title: "Ah, None Too Soon What A Full Moon!"

- Su Shi (Northern Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Ah, none too soon -

What a Full Moon!

I raise my cup of wine

And ask of the Blue Skies:

Tonight, yes, tonight,

In which year of the Celestial Palaces

Is this Evening bright?

I would return by the Wind riding,

But am afraid the mansions wide

And all the jade buildings

Would be too cold in high places.

When I dance in the clear moonlight

I play with my shadow in delight;

So, I prefer it this way -

In the Secular World to stay.

The Moon slowly turns away from the pavilion red,
Climbs over the fine houses instead;
And silently,
It shines upon a sleepless me -
I should not be sorrowful
That the Moon is round and full
Whilst we have to go our separate ways.
For men, Grief, Joy, Partings and Re-unions will always be present;
For the Moon, there are Cloudy and Clear Skies, Full Moons and Crescents.
Staying happy together forever,
Since the days of old, is an impossible matter.
Let's hope that, live a long life we each would,
And though separated by thousands of mile,
Still we both could
Enjoy together the Full Moon with a smile.

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Frank Yue

Su Shi Couplet Returning From Garden Touring, My Horse Gallops In Flight ?? ??????? ????????

Not to be outdone by his brother-in-law Qin Shaoyou ??? and his younger sister Su Xiaomei ???, Su Shi ?? also brushed in reply the following (the last of a total of 3)"never-ending"; Loop Poem and sent it back together with Xiaomei's to Qin:

A 7-CHARACTER JUEJU (4-LINED VERSE) LOOP POEM
"RETURNING FROM GARDEN TOURING, MY HORSE GALLOPS IN FLIGHT"

- by SU SHI (1036-1101)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Returning from garden touring, my horse gallops in flight;
My horse gallops in flight, as up I am sobering.
As up I am sobering: I wake up with e'ening in sight;
I wake up with e'ening in sight, returning from garden touring.

(2013.09.21)

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Frank Yue

Su Shi: Handsome Men I'd Always Envy ?: ????????

Tune: Ding Feng Bo (Calming the Waves)Ci

Title: Handsome Men I'd Always Envy

- Su Dongbo (Northern Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Handsome men I'd always envy,
Heaven favours them with women pretty.
She writes her own songs refreshing,
Through her white teeth she's a-singing.
It's like when the gentle breeze is blowing.

The snows fly and the hot sea
Becomes as cool as can be;
Returning from a place faraway,
The songster sports a younger face!
Whenever she is smiling,

There's southern plum-fragrance beguiling.
I ask of her, Guangdong shouldn't be a good place to stay?
Her reply amazes me -
"Hometown
is where the heart settles down."

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Su Shi: Light Rays Dance About The Rippling Waves In The Sun ?? ????????????????

Drinking on the Lake
when it Shines after the Rains
-by Su Shi (1036-1101)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Light rays dance about the rippling waves in the Sun;
Rare hill-view, misty void and hazy rains are one.
West Lake here does rival the Beauty of the West,
Howe'er she is exquisitely or plainly dressed.

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Frank Yue

Su Shi: 苏诗 苏诗 苏诗

TI JIN SI: "Brushing a Poem at Jin Temple"

-by SU SHI (1037-1101)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

(Poem Read in the Usual Manner :)

The tide follows imperceptible waves with snow caps in view;
Afar, fishermen are fishing in the Moon's silvery hue.
Bridges face the temple door, the winding path above is small;
At the lane's end lies a pure spring with water clearest of all.
Lush green trees in the distance greet the river and skies at dawn;
Surrounded by crimson clouds, toward ev'ning the Sun still shines on.
The distant clouds in all four directions adjoin the water;
Against a thousand dots of blue peaks, a few gulls soar lighter.

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(Poem Read in Reverse from the End character backwards :)

Several specks of slim sea-gull soar high above myriad peaks green;
Looking afar, in four directions, clouds on water are seen.
In a sunny late ev'ning, all the tattered clouds are stain'd red;
Then, at daybreak the trees by the river are all green instead.

Facing the lane are clear ripples from th' eye of the stone fountain;
Above the bridge and temple door snakes a path up the mountain.
Beneath a bright full Moon, fishing boats far and wide freely go;
It seems that swaying with the tide's rhythm was the summit snow.

Frank Yue

Su Shi: At Immortal Mountain, Spirited Rains Wet Passing Clouds ?? ??????? ????????

RESPONDING TO CAO FU'S GIFT OF THE 'HE YUAN' NEWLY-BAKED TEA LEAVES

-by Su Shi (1036-1101)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

At Immortal Mountain, spirited rains wet passing clouds,
To cleanse the fragrant flesh and with lovely powder, they vow.
The bright Moon on the tea-connoisseur, her soft rays, lays;
Crisp, energizing winds blow all dull sadness away.

It's essential for the ice and snow to be pure at heart,
Since painted grease on a new face do not make a fine art.
This little poem's written in jest, you see: Don't laugh at me -
A fine hot cup of tea is always like a fair Beauty!

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Frank Yue

Su Shi: Look At It Horizontally, They're Mountain Ranges ?? ??????? ????????

Tí Xi Lín Bì:

"Brushing a Poem on the Wall of Xilin Temple"

-by SU SHI (1036-1101)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Look at it horizontally, they're mountain ranges;
Vertically, they appear to be precipitous peaks.
Viewing the mountain from afar, the vista changes -
From up front and various angles, diff'rent physiques.
No one could see the true face of Lu Mountain with one's heart,
For standing here, of the mountain one has become a part.

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Frank Yue

Su Shi's When The Lotus Withers And Dies Its Umbrella Tops Keeping Out The Rain Are Gone ?????? ? ????????

"To Liu Kingwen";

- Su Shi (Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank Yue

When the lotus withers and dies
Its umbrella tops keeping out the rain are gone;
While the chrysanthemum's in demise
'Gainst the frost proudly its bony stems still fight on.

Remember the good times throughout the year,
One should always remember the good times -
Times when here and there
Are yellow oranges and green clementines.

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Frank Yue

Su Xiaoxiao Loop Couplet: Lotus-Root Picker Of Mine, By The Green Willows River! ??????? ???????

In her reply, Xiaoxiao ??? of course v skilfully complimented her industrious husband Qin Shaoyou ??? on employing such a new format of loop poem (cf. "Is heard such a new song fine" in her response below) and encouraged him to carry on working ("Lotus-root Picker of mine, by the green willows river! ";) despite delays in his planned return date.

Translated into English verse, the second Loop Poem (in this series)sounds something like:

A 7-Character Jueju (4-lined verse)Loop Poem:

"LOTUS-ROOT PICKER OF MINE, BY THE GREEN WILLOWS RIVER! "

-by SU XIAOMEI (Song Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Lotus-root Picker of mine, by the green willows river!

By the green willows river, is heard such a new song fine.

Is heard such a new song fine, with a voice like bells silver;

With a voice like bells silver - Lotus-root Picker of mine!

(2013.09.21)

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Frank Yue

Sun Simiao: The Supreme Healer Cures The Illness That Is Still Obscure ??? ????????

"The Supreme Healer Cures the Illness that is Still Obscure"

-by Sun Simiao (Tang Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The supreme healer cures the illness that is still obscure,
The good healer cures the illness that is about to break out,
Fully manifested illness the least able tries to cure.

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Frank Yue

Tai Fugu's Village At Wai River After The Battle ?????? ????,

Village at Wai River After the Battle

- by Tai Fugu (1167-1246? , Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frak C Yue

Little peach tree, now owner-less, still bloomed,
Crows o'er grass shroud'd by mist and e'ening gloom -
Houses in ruins surrounded the well old,
They had been occupied by living souls.

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Frank Yue

Tan Sitong's Till Death I Long For Myr'ad Du Gen's To Rise And Loudly Cry??? ??????? ????????

Yù Zhong Tí Bì:

Poem Written on Prison Wall (before Execution)

- by Tan Sitong (1865 - 1898)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Should I run and hide in my friend's home? On Zhang Jian muse I.

Till death I long for myr'ad Du Gen's to rise and loudly cry.

Let the sword fall on my neck, I am laughing at the sky -

I leave my Loyalty and Justice, twin-Kunluns, behind!

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Frank Yue

Tang Baihu: One Step Up, One Step Up, And Another (Like So) ??? ??????? ????????

"Climbing the Mountain"

-by Tang Baihu (1470-1524)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

One step up, one step up, and another (like so) -

One step up until the top of the mountain high.

Lifting my head, there are the red Sun,
white clouds low -

At one glance I take in the Four Seas, Five Lakes fine.

(2016/08.18)

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Frank Yue

Tang Bohu: Not Heating Up The Tripod For The Elixir Pill ??? ?????? ????????

"Not heating up the tripod for the Elixir pill"

-by Tang Bohu (Ming Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Not heating up the tripod for the Elixir pill,

Nor doing deep meditation while sitting
still -

A merchant or a farmer, I shall not be;

At leisure, I will just draw a painting for
sale.

I've vowed ne'er to make money that's
sinful and stale;

(I love to live my life my way and will be
free!)

(2013.09.05)

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Tang Bohu: Not Heating Up The Tripod For The Elixir Pill, Nor Doing Deep Meditation While Sitting Still??? ? ?????? ????????

"NOT HEATING UP THE TRIPOD FOR THE ELIXIR PILL"

-by Tang Bohu (Ming dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Not heating up the tripod for the Elixir pill,

Nor doing deep meditation while sitting still -

I eat when I am hungry,

I go to bed when I'm sleepy.

All my life, my poetic brush draws paintings mellow;

I love admiring the beautiful Flower and the Willow.

Both the body and Spring grow old, in the mirror 'tis
found;

Before the lamp, the husband and wife watch the Moon round.

Ten thousand rounds of utter happiness,

A thousand rounds of fuzzy drunkenness -

In this world, he who roams leisurely

Is surely an Earthly Deity!

(2013.09.03)

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Frank Yue

Tang Wan's The Phoenix Hairpin (In Reply)???- ?? ??? ??? ????? ?????

(To the Tune of)The Phoenix Hairpin Ci
- Tang Wan (Song Dynasty)

The world is non-sentimental;
Loveless, many have thoughts evil!
When the ev'ning rains wash out the day's light,
For the flow'rs to fall and die they incite.
When the fresh'ning morning breeze is no more -
No more are tears as eyes are dry and sore!
I'd like writing m'feelings and make them known -
Lean'ng on railing I talk to m'self alone!
Hard, hard, hard!

Each goes on a different way;
O Today is not yester-day!
Ghost of illness beckons like ropes o' the swing.
The horn sounds cold and piercing;
The young night is on the wing.
I'm so fearful of people asking me;
Swallow'ng m'tears, full of glee I pretend to be!
Pretend, pretend, pretend!

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Frank Yue

Tang Yin: Water-Wheel Wheels Water Up; Water Fills Wheel And Won't Stop ??? ??????????????

FUNNY COUPLET

-by 1. Tang Bohu (Ming Dynasty)

-by 2. "Lazy Piggy"

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Water-wheel wheels water up;
Water fills wheel and won't stop.
When the wheel stops the water stops flowing.

Fish-net's used to net the fish;
The net traps big shoals of fish.
The fish are gone and the net is breaking.

(2013.09.06)

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Frank Yue

Tang Yin: Worldly Affairs Are Like A Short Sail On A Boat ?? ??????? ????????

An Admonitory Poem:

"Worldly affairs are like a short sail on a boat"

-by TANG YIN (Ming dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Worldly affairs are like a short sail on a boat;
To the west coast or the east coast it may well float.
After waning, the Moon then shows up full and round;
After the south winds, those from the north may be found.
One's good fortune wouldn't last a thousand days in a year;
Towards late Spring, blooming flowers must fall with their own tears!
Gossips at the door -to be tolerant it's best;
Half-demented, half-hard-of-hearing -then you're blest!

(2013.10.)

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Frank Yue

Tao Shiliang: Treasure Not That Gold-Threaded Dress, In Truth, Treasure, With Pleasure ??? ??????? ????????

Jin Lu Yi: "The Gold-Threaded Dress"
- by Tao Shiliang (865-?) Tang dyansty
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Treasure not that gold-threaded dress, in truth,
Treasure, with pleasure, your precious days of youth.
Flowers so lovely, pick them while still in bloom,
Tarry, you'll but carry an empty branch in gloom!

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Frank Yue

Tao Yuanming: There Ain't Roots Or Stalks In One's Life Way ?????? ??????

Miscellaneous Poems - No.1 (of 12)

-by Tao Yuanming (365-427)(Jin Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

There ain't roots or stalks in one's life way -
Like dusts on the road we drift around.
Dispersed, we go where the winds are bound;
Our body changes each passing day.
Two men may be born as brothers dear -
They shan't be the only family.
Enjoy yourselves while you are happy,
Have a care-free drink with your neighbour.
Once the prime of our life's gone, it's gone -
There are no "two mornings" the same day.
On time we'd better be on our way,
For the Sun and Moon keep moving on.

(2017.03.24)

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Tao Yuanming's There Ain't Roots Or Stalks In One's Life Way ?????,?????

Miscellaneous Poems No.1 (of 12)

- by Tao Yuanming (365-427) (Jin Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

There ain't roots or stalks in one's life way -
Like dusts on the road we drift around.
Dispersed, we go where the winds are bound;
Our body changes each passing day.

Two men may be born as brothers dear -
They shan't be the only family.
Enjoy yourselves while you are happy,
Have a care-free drink with your neighbour.

Once the prime of our life's gone, it's gone -
There are no "two mornings" the same day.
On time we'd better be on our way,
For the Sun and Moon keep moving on.

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Frank Yue

Tell Me: Playing Our Flutes, Could We Ride The Phoenix To Float Away? Lu ??? ?????? ????????

Cháng-an Gu Yì: "Nostalgic Chang-an" (Excerpt)

- Lu

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Tell me: Playing our flutes, could we ride the phoenix to float away?
Could youthful lovers dance all day and let their best years decay?
We'd die without regret if we could be a pair of sole;
Were we mandarin ducks, being immortal we wouldn't extol.

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Frank Yue

The Butterfly And The Fish Poem: Into Zhuang Ze Had Turned The Butterfly ???? ???? ?

"The Butterfly and the Fish Poem"

-by Frank C Yue

Into Zhuang Ze had turned the Butterfly;

In the rain met the Fisherman and I.

Drunkenly I asked of the Fish in captivity,

With teary eyes the Fish was mute and kept its peace.

In myriad mountains floated down all the leaves red;

Speechless, the river continued flowing instead.

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Frank Yue

The Classics Of Poems: E'ening Comes Around, It's E'ening! But You Ain't Returning Home, Why? ?? ?? ?? ?

"The Classics of Poems: National Verses:
Northern Songs"; "E'ening Comes Around, It's E'ening";
-Translated by Frank C Yue

E'ening comes around, it's e'ening!
But you ain't returning home, why?
For the sake of our king,
Till it's dark we'll wait by the way-side.

E'ening comes around, it's e'ening!
But you ain't returning home, why?
For the sake of our king,
By toiling in the mud we abide.

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Frank Yue

The Green Water Is Tainted Orange By The Setting Sun ??????? ???????

AUTUMN THOUGHTS

-by Frank C Yue

The green water is tainted orange by the setting Sun;
Brave young Island crows are all engulfed by the fog crimson.
Riding the Autumn wind, red leaves fly around in the sky;
This is my home, where cuckoos cry, spilling blood as they cry.

«??» by Frank C Yue

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Frank Yue

The High Mountain And River Flowing Write Up A Thousand Poems Sightly ??? ????????

- Huang Zhouxin (Ming Dynasty)

The high Mountain and River flowing
Write up a thousand poems sightly;
The bright Moon and Breeze blowing
Make drinking in the boat savoury.

O, Who would be worthy
Enough my companion to be?
Only the Exceptional Beauty,
Talented Scholar and Immortal.

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Frank Yue

The Lute Is A-Playing Song After Song Far, Far Away, The Joyful Notes Drift Along ?????????? ????????

To the Tune of: Xi Jiang Yuè:

"West River Moon"

Title: Hán Lóu: "Cold Mansion" (Ci No.84)

-by ???? "One Old Man"

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The lute is a-playing song after song;

Far, far away, the joyful notes drift along.

With the "No-Desire Swordsman's" talents shown,

It's like countless ripples from a stone thrown.

Fishing alone in the cold stream, fear not -

With reflection, to be there two boats ought.

With "Golden Bow's" swords, mace, spear and arrows,

Open a blog and your Muse will follow.

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Frank Yue

The Snow, Moon, Wind And Flower All Want To Go Into Poetry ????? ???????

Qi Jue (28-Character Quatrain) :
"The Wind and the Flower"
- by ?????'A Man of Advanced Years'
- Translated by Frank C Yue

The Snow, Moon, Wind and Flower all want to go into poetry,
And Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer are good subject matters.
At the Thatch'd Pavilion one can't find any Escort pretty -
If you had lusty sex on your mind, please do not enter!

(2014.07.18)

«?????»???? (P? N.325)

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Frank Yue

The War Chariots A-Rolling - Du Fu ??? ??? ????????

- Du Fu (Tang Dynasty)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

The war chariots a-rolling,
Horses neighing,
Men marching,
Their bows and arrows over hips hanging;
Alongside the soldiers running -
The parents, wives and children, raising
Dust billows the Xiangyang Bridge obscuring!

They stamp their feet, hold onto the men's clothing,
The road the great crowds clogging...
Their loud, plaintive cries
Pierce the clouds high in the skies!
A passer-by asks of the men -
Their reply: Men were conscripted often then.
15-year-olds were sent north,
To the Yellow River they marched forth;
Men in their 40's were led away
To farm the western frontier where they would stay.
Young boys' hair was done up by village elders
Who sent them off as adults;
When they return with white hair
They may be, even then,
Sent off to the border again!
O! The FRONTIER, so much blood has flowed it could form a sea;
Still, the Emperor wants to expand his territory!

Have you not heard? (Let this be known -)
East of the Han mountains countless counties indeed
Are now desolate, the fields overgrown
With thorns and weeds.
Even with strong women the fields tilling,
Little can the lands be producing.
Though our men are brave, full of devotion,
Like chicken and dogs they're driven ever.
To ask them questions, even if I wanted,
The conscripts would never

The Whispering Stranger Seated Next To Carla On The Plane (1 Of 2 ...)

The Whispering Stranger Seated Next to Carla on The Plane
(1 of 2 ...)
- by Frank Yue

The Whispering Stranger Seated Next to
Carla on the Plane(Part 1 of 2 ...)

After a long cruise and a week in Rome,
My wife and I were glad to return home.
High in the sky, "giant condor" hurled itself forth
From Barcelona to Toronto via Montreal.
On a very crowded TRANSAT plane
Most of the passengers tried to sleep in vain.

To keep at bay possible deep-vein blood clot,
With an "imagined assailant" I fought.
It would be an eight-hour long flight, you see;
I "sparred" with the air in extreme slow motion -
Not to raise any 'fearful emotion'
From the young woman seated next to me.

Reading a book, my quiet "next-seat lady"
Surprised me somewhat as I was not ready
To answer her sudden question: "Why your hand
Was shaking like so when you had it extend'd? "
Training my 'internal energy' I've been -
And I was impressed by her perception keen.

"O? You could boost your energy just like that? "
First, know that you can feel your own energy!
Rub your palms vigorously together -like so -
Place them close to each other, but don't forget
If they touch you won't feel your flow of energy -
For then the 'qi' flows inside and you won't know.

As soon as she felt the warmth and strong tingling

In her palms, her jaws dropped down, her eyes op'ned.
Her face lit up with amazement and awe,
Her mouth assumed the shape of an oval 'O':
"How does this work? Can you teach me at all? "
Yes, I can but it'll take you years of training.

Einstien 'shows' that balls of energy we all are,
With his famous $E= mc^2$ formula...
However, before I could say anything more,
My Love -who was seated in front of me
Turned her head and -gave us a BIG "Sheee! ! "
Not to disturb my wife, I could talk no more.

M'wife put on the eye-covers, tried to have a nap.
The young woman looked at me again in the eyes;
I looked back at hers and simply shook my head.
But then something just 'clicked' in my mind -
O! The three English articles in my net-book
Which, from beneath my own seat, out I took.

I opened the files on the true Hong Kong stories:
They are "Good-bye, My 7-Minute Friend! "
And "Chance Encounter with a Three-Legged Man";,
Depicting man's fighting spirits and glory -
How to train and walk till one's feet are weary,
How the path to success is rather teary.

Without a sound, she slowly read the stories long,
Line by line, patiently, stopping here and there.
But in English comprehension she wasn't so strong;
She'd pause and look this way with a question in her eyes.
I motioned to her: Let the vocabularies pass by -
One could only take in so much somehow, somewhere.

(... to be Continued)

** $E= mc^2$:

1. This most famous formula stands for " $E(\text{energy})= M(\text{mass}) \times \text{the Speed of Light (C)}^2$ ";
2. This means that if one takes the Mass of an object and multiplies it by the Speed of Light (2.9×10^8 metres per second) , one will then have calculated

the amount of tremendous Energy released.

3. In short, Matter = Energy.

Frank Yue

The Whispering Stranger Seated Next To Carla On The Plane (2 Of 2)

The Whispering Stranger Seated Next to Carla on The Plane
(... Part 2 of 2)
- by Frank Yue

(... Continued from Part 1)

I leaned towards her and whispered in her ear:
If you want to hear, me you'll have to move near.
(I ne'er dreamt I would whisper in a woman's ear
On the same plane in the presence of my wife dear!)
She obliged and ignored her personal space -
My lips were a couple of inches from her face.

"What are those hand movements you were doing? "
They are entirely two different things -
Martial arts, and health-enhancing technique.
For yourself, choose one for me to 'teach':
Some self-defence tricks to ease your mind night and day,
Or, some effective health-care maintenance ways.

With her questions, she fired away;
There couldn't be a more eager student these days.
I answered them best as I could;
Like to learn some health-enhancing exercise, she would.
In her late twenties, she is a smart young lady.
In her mind, there was still one 'curiosity'.

"Now, why are you so keen to teach all this to me? "
I'd promised to share these good stuffs to all who ask me.
Why are you so interested in Chinese medicine?
"My Mom once suffered from a certain ailment;
The doctors couldn't help her but after treatment
By acupuncture her condition saw some improvement."

Before we started, were you reading a novel in Spanish?

"Right, I was. And I speak Spanish, French and English.
I come from Brazil, am visiting friends in Montreal.
My name is Carla. What's yours? "
I pointed to the name appearing in my article.
She gave me a funny face and let out a chuckle.

No, I am not kidding, Carla.
I am "him", the "poet-author".
I could see some doubts in her eyes.
I am not flirting with you; why should I lie?
I produced my boarding-pass stub with THE name.
Then, Carla's attitude was not quite the same.

I showed Carla "The Ten Skilful Hands" forms just once;
She repeated the 10 movements flawlessly after I'd done!
And in the correct order, too,
In tune with the 'qi flow' in me and you.
(Ah! I was quite happy: I had chosen well -)
Teach your parents and friends for better health.

As a responsible "tutor" under such conditions,
I wrote -in English -the brief instructions
On the inside of a cut-open blank envelope,
While Carla was napping during the session-interlude.
She opened her eyes as her destination came "on-line";
I handed the note to her and bade her Good-bye.

Carla said "Adios! " and got off the plane;
Probably, I would never see her again.
Go, spread the good stuffs around you -
Truth is Beauty, and Beauty, Truth.
Let's all make this place a better World with Love,
The gentle rain of Compassion from Above.

(The End)

Frank Yue

Thought-Provoking Diamond Poem: Spring Is Just Like Wine, So Smooth, Caressing, Fine ? - ?? - ???

Chinese - What a fantastic language!

On the thought-provoking diamond poem below,
an attempted translation follows.

Spring is Just Like Wine -

-A Reversible Poem (2 Moods) by Unknown

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Spring is just like wine,
So smooth, caressing, fine.
Time is like a river flowing,
I think of the past whilst my back turning.
Happiness, joy, sadness and lament are no more,
Past events gone, still the flowers are like before.
Long lasting is friendship only,
Flowing like the waters endlessly.
Fate brought us together since the old days,
You've been walking by my side all the way.
The morning Sun cradled by coloured clouds,
We loiter in the rain, coming down loud.
Till the red leaves are thick and deep,
Will meet again -you and I,
We will have tea and wine,
Admire the rocks, and our memories keep.
In fallen petals the ground may be steep'd,
Yet with our sleeves the white clouds we would sweep.
Cheers and laughter non-stopping,
While the red Sun setting
Atop the branch a-sitting...
Detached from the secular world completely,
Desire-less, we all await Spring quietly.

(2017.01.29)

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Thousands And Thousands, Countless Times - How We Hug And Kiss Till The End Of Time! ??????????????!

"For IVY and All the Lovers of the World! "
-by Frank C Yue

One time, two times, three, four times,
Five times, six times, seven, eight times,
Thousands and thousands, countless times -
How we hug and kiss till the end of Time!

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Frank Yue

To My Love My-One-And-Only Through The Seasons ?

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- written on our 35th anniversary - 2007.08.03.

The longest day may go,
The darkest night may fall,
The strongest gale may stall,
Showers turn to hail and snow!

The bright, fiery eye of heaven,
Shedding its gentle tears in rain,
May at other times and again
Rest in a gray, cloudy haven.

We'll shower in laughter, golden red leaves e'ery Autumn.
E'ery Winter I'll bring warmth and joy, my little dove.
Every Spring I'll bring you a fragrant fresh blossom.
E'ery Summer on each breeze I'll send you kisses, m'Love.

The weather may be a-changing without rhyme or reason;
My love for you is constant as the cycle of season!

(Following Chinese translated poem also by Frank C Yue)

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Frank Yue

Today Is Your Graduation! J, Our Hearty Congratulations!

"J Going to High School! "

-by Frank C Yue

June 10,2016 -

A great day for a young teen!

Hey, J!

Today is your graduation!

J, our hearty congratulations!

O A time of jubilation

And for a celebration!

Your Dad, your Mom and your Sister,

Grandparents -all around you gather,

With friends and classmates at your school Mass.

Hey,9th Grader J,

A time for review and thanksgiving,

A new leg in your life journeying.

May all good things come your way,

No sadness is there to stay!

Hey, newbie 9th Grader J,

O Yay, gay, jay!

More challenges for you to face!

Awaiting you a brave new time and space -

Courage and congratulations!

(2016.06.07)

Frank Yue

Trump Card's Remembering Jiangnam -Springtime ?? ????? ??????

«????.????» - Trump Card

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Remembering Jiangnam -Springtime

- Trump Card

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Looking beyond the railing-
Vibrant Spring's given colours to the land,
Myriad flowers are blooming,
And so green the willows stand.

How many times
In your lifetime
In the East Wind have you been bathing?
Leisurely, I look at the red Sun setting.

Frank Yue

Tu Siushan's My Friend Came One Cold Night ?? ????? ?? ??????????

My Friend Came One Cold Night

- by Tu Siushan (? -1227, Song Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

My friend came one cold night,
A pot of hot tea instead of wine -
To a boil bamboo stove brought water fine,
While the fire first burned red and bright.

Then the Moon-in-window commonly seen,
Presented a different scene -
For at these particular hours
Bloomed a full branch of sweet plum flowers.

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Frank Yue

Twinkle, Twinkle, Pretty Stars! I Sorely Know What You Are.

- by Frank C Yue

A Plea:

To certain Juice and Booze Drinkers in the park,
please clean up your acts!

Twinkle, Twinkle, "Pretty Stars"
I sorely know what you are...
When you appear on the ground
Close by the children's play-ground,

When I see your distinctive mark
In my neighbourhood green park.
Tell me, Twinkle "Pretty Stars",
Did you come from near or far?

In a moment of blind rage,
You vaulted onto the stage
To play out in compliance
Your past master's 'defiance'.

You're now basking in the sun,
But kids in fear from you run!
Clear, brown, green -you're made of glass,
Like sharp diamonds in the grass.

Will you hear its plaintive cry
When a bleeding child asks why?
In tears: "Mamma, who would do such a thing?"
Throwing glass bottles like birds on the wing!

Frank Yue

Vanishing Meteor - Haiku

A tiny meteor,
Trailing a long glowing tail -
Your thoughts lost in mine.

Frank Yue

Wang Anshi's Mooring At Quazhou ??? ?????? ??????

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Mooring at Quazhou

- by Wang Anshi (1021-1086)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Jinghou and Quazhou are parted, a water by;
Just beyond several mountains my Zhongshan lies.
Spring winds again turn south of the River green.
When shall I come home wearing the Moon's sheen?

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Frank Yue

Wang Bao's King Teng's Mansion ??????? ???????

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The King Teng Mansion towers high
Beside the river's sandbar long;
The revellers had long gone, said good-bye
To joyous dancing and songs.
Above the painted rooftops fly
Colour'd Nanpu clouds in the morning;
The beaded curtains in the evening
Help stop the West Hill rain coming by.

Over the clouds leisurely,
And the shadowy gorge, the Sun shines ceaselessly.
All things that came, they came to pass;
How many Autumns gone as the Stars move on their paths?
In the Mansion exalted,
O! Where has the mighty Prince gone?
Beyond the railing sculpted,
In vain the Yangtze keeps rolling on.

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Frank Yue

Wang Bo Couplet: Border Mountains Are Difficult To Cross - ?????? ????????

A WITTY COUPLET

-by WANG BO (650-676)

(Excerpted from his famous 'Preface to TENG WANG GE':
"KING TENG'S MANSION")

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Border mountains are difficult to cross -
Who'll e'er feel sorry for those who were lost?

Like the floating plants, by chance, they all meet:
They're travellers from far-off places, indeed!

(2013.09.14)

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Frank Yue

Wang Changling: Cold Rains Blott'd Out The Yangtze As I Came To Wu At Night ??? ??????? ????????

"At the Lotus Inn Bidding Goodbye to Xin Jian" - Verse No.1 (of 2)
-by Wang Changling (698? -757)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Cold rains blott'd out the Yangtze as I came to Wu at night;
Amid the Chu hills, we bid lonely Adieu at first light.
O, Should my Louyang friends and relatives ask about me -
Of clear ice in a jade bottle, my heart is like a piece.

(2014.07.29)

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Frank Yue

Wang Changling: Out Of The Border ????????

Out Of The Border

- Wang Changling (Tang Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The bright Moon's seen the greatness of the Qin Dynasty,
The border gates, glories of the Han's majesty;
On thousands of miles campaigning,
O! Until when will the soldiers be returning?

Only if "Flying General Li" were here,
(It would be amply clear -)
None of the fierce Tartar raiders-on-horse
Would the frontier Yin Mountain cross!

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Frank Yue

Wang Changling's The Song Of Liangzhou ????????

- a translation of Wang's Tang poem

The long, long River Yellow
Winds up amidst the distant white clouds;
A lone fort stands on guard high
On the steep mountain-side.

To the grieving, weeping willows
A homesick soldier's flute complains loud -
For the Spring breeze never blows past
The desolate Jade Gate Pass.

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Frank Yue

Wang Han's The Song Of Liangzhou ????????

- Translated by Frank C Yue

What enticing grape wine
In glow-in-the-dark green jade cups,
I was about to drink up
When the urgent pipa signals sound'd.
Laugh not, my Comrades fine!
If, on the battlefield, drunk I'm found -
Since Time first began,
Returned from battles has how many a man?

"???"" (?)??

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Frank Yue

Wang Jingwei's At The Yan Market, Proudly I Sing The Sad Farewell Song???: ????? ??????

Bèi Dai Kou Zhan:

"Arrested at Kou Zhan" Poem No.3 (of 4)

-by Wang Jingwei (1883-1944)

-Translated by FrankC Yue

At the Yan market, proudly I sing the sad farewell song;

As a captive from Chu, to jail I calmly march along.

A swipe of the sword - great pleasure gives me;

O My youthful life - let Glory be!

"????" (?) -???

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei A Light Boat To Welcome My Guest Supreme ?? ????? ??????

Lín Hú Tíng: "Pavilion by the Lake"
-by WANG WEI(701-761)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

A light boat to welcome my guest supreme -
In leisure, crossing the lake gracefully.
By the railing ready's wine (smooth as cream) ,
On four sides blooms many a water lily.

(2013.08.02)

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei Since Middle-Aged, I Began Following The Dao ?? ????? ??????

Lodging at Zhongnan Mountain

-Wang Wei

Since middle-aged, I began following the Dao;
IN OLD AGE at Zhongnan Shan's foothill I live now.
Whenever I feel the urge, alone I take wing;
It's JOYFUL FOR M"SELF, SEEING THE GOODNESS in all things.

When I come to the end of the stream winding,
I sit down and watch the white clouds ascending.
In the woods I meet an old man firewood cutting,
We chat, we laugh, we have no thought of returning.

(2020.11.14)

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei ?? ??????? ??????? ??????? ???????

SHAO NIAN XING ("Youthful Adventures") (No.1)

-by WANG WEI (701-761)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

An elite Imperial Guard, I rode from the great Han palace
To join, first time, the General's armies brave and callous.
Who doesn't know it's hard fighting at the country's far-off fringe?
Should I die, of sweet fragrant Chivalry, my bones may still tinge!

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei: As The Marshall's Constellation Is Moving Seen ?? ????? ??????

Farewell to Marshall Zhao Leading the Armies to Daizhou (Shanxi)

(I drew the character "Green" for rhyming purposes)

-by WANG WEI (701-761)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

As the Marshall's Constellation is moving seen,
All the fine willow leaves in Han land are still "Green".
Martial curfews are sounded for thousands of miles;
The great armies march past Jingxing Gate in neat files.
From the palace he makes haste, himself to forsake;
For his country, the Mongul's Sacred Altar he'll take.
O! Him acting like young scholars, you shall ne'er find,
Expending one's energies on a classical work for a life-time!

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei: Going Toward The Five Royal Tombs Is My Wanderlust Friend ?? ????? ??????

Seeing Official Chu Off into the Qin District

-by WANG WEI (701-761)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Going toward the Five Royal Tombs is my wanderlust friend;
For my exquisite sword, a thousand gold pieces I spend.
I take off my sword, and give it to you as we part,
As a symbol of the great affection of my heart.

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei: I Know Not Where Is The Heaped Fragrance Temple ?? ????? ??????

Passing Through Heaped Fragrance Temple

-Wang Wei

I know not where
Is the Heaped Fragrance Temple;
It may be several miles inside the cloud pinnacles.
Among the ancient trees no human paths are there;
In the hills deep from where are tolls of the bell coming?
Over the rocks precarious, come sounds of the spring bubbling;
Covering the cold pines green the sunbeams a-fading.
In the mist beyond the empty gorge winding,
I sit in quiet, deep meditation
To subdue the Dragon of Temptation.

(2020.11.13)

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei: Song Of The Old General ?? ??????? ?????? ??

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Song of the Old General
- by Wang Wei (701-761)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

This rendition is dedicated to my classmate Mr Lawrence Fung Kit-man who gave me a copy of the "Translated Poems in English by Du Fu".

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When at the tender age of fifteen or twenty still -
On foot, I unhorsed Tartar captor, took his horse to ride!
I shot the fierce white-forehead tiger in yonder hills;
Which other brown-whiskered young man could do these, but I?

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For a thousand long long miles, I fought from place to place;
M'trusted sword once held up myriad troops in time and space!
Vigorous and fast, the Han armies just like thunder -
Stomping on small spikes, most Hun horsemen fell asunder!

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With luck, General Wei Qing won such battles glorious;
'Twas his fate General Li Guang was not victorious -
Once declared unfit, he became weak and dejected;
The world goes by: his hair grew white and he procrastinated.

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In the past, his flying arrow pierced both the goose-eyes;
Today, out of practice, his left elbow almost dies.
By the roadside, he hawks gourds for people to buy;
Like Tao Yuan-ming, he'd planted five willows by his door.

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Linking the quiet cul-de-sac's, shapeless old trees green -
Through the open door, some desolate hills can be seen.
While besieged, for water to drink he did still find a spring!
Unlike the Yingchuan guy, though drunk abuses he won't sing.

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Below Helanshan, like clouds gather formations army,
Riders passing orders dash about daily and nightly.
Ministers at three provinces had great recruiting plans;
To the General from the Emperor come five commands.

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Dusting off my old armour, it gleams just like snow;
Bored, in the starlight my glistering sword I up hold.
Grant me a special bow to fell generals of the foe!
Leading the brave Yue troops, our lost Honour let's all restore.

Forget my wasted waiting in vain, it was like dreaming -
For our Country, I'm game for the Great Battle redeeming!

(2014.12.15)

Frank Yue

Wang Wei: We Bade Each Other Good-Bye In These Hills; I Didn't Close The Wicker Door, Dusk Until ?? ?? ??? ??????

Sòng Bié: "Farewell"
-by Wang Wei (701-761)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

We bade each other Good-bye in these hills;

I didn't close the wicker door, dusk until.

The Spring grass will be green again next year;

But, will you - my Prince of Friends - return here?

Wang Wei (701-761) :Farewell

1 Here in the hills, I bade you farewell;

2 And by dusk I closed my twiggen door.

3 O grass will again be green next spring!

4 Might you, my lord, be back once more?

Translated by Andrew W.F. Wong

(Huang Hongfa) ?? : ???

24th September 2013

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei's Birds-Chirping Brook ?? ????? ?????

Birds-Chirping Brook

-by Wang Wei (701-761)

-Translated by Frank CYue

At leisure, I watch osmanthus blooms fall;
Silent night, serene are the Spring hills all.
Full moon rises, waking birds in the hills;
Now and then, birds still chirp 'round the Spring rill.

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei's In Wei City The Morning Rain ?? ??????? ? ???????

"The Song of Wei City"

- Wang Wei

- Translated by Frank C Yue

In Wei City the morning rain
Has washed away all the dusts fine;
In front of the inn
The willows are so fresh and green.

Come, let's drink it up again!
Let's have another cup of wine -
For, West of the Yangguan Gateway,
None of your old friends would go that way!

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei's Serene Hills Just After The Rain - The Autumn Evening Air's Crisp Again?? ?????? ??????

Shan Ju Qiu Míng:

"Mountain Lodge at Autumn Nightfall"

- by Wang Wei(701-761)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Serene hills just after the rain -

The Autumn evening air's crisp again.

The bright Moon among the pines spies;

O'er rocks the clear spring water slides.

Sounds o' returning wash'r-girls heard through bamboos;

Come fishing boats -the lotus, pushing through.

Let the Spring fragrances be gone -

My Prince o' Friends may wish to stay on!

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Frank Yue

Wang Wei's Song Of The Old General ??????? ???????

Song of the Old General
- by Wang Wei (701-761)

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When at the tender age of fifteen or twenty still -
On foot, I unhorsed Tartar captor, took his horse to ride!
I shot the fierce white-forehead tiger in yonder hills;
Which other brown-whiskered young man could do these, but I?

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For a thousand long long miles, I fought from place to place;
M'trusted sword once held up myriad troops in time and space!
Vigorous and fast, the Han armies just like thunder -
Stomping on small spikes, most Hun horsemen fell asunder!

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With luck, General Wei Qing won such battles glorious;
'Twas his fate General Li Guang was not victorious -
Once declared unfit, he became weak and dejected;
The world goes by: his hair grew white and he procrastinated.

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In the past, his flying arrow pierced both the goose-eyes;
Today, out of practice, his left elbow almost dies.
By the roadside, he hawks gourds for people to buy;
Like Tao Yuan-ming, he'd planted five willows by his door.

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Linking the quiet cul-de-sac's, shapeless old trees green -
Through the open door, some desolate hills can be seen.
While besieged, for water to drink he did still find a spring!
Unlike the Yingchuan guy, though drunk abuses he won't sing.

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Below Helanshan, like clouds gather formations army,
Riders passing orders dash about daily and nightly.
Ministers at three provinces had great recruiting plans;
To the General from the Emperor come five commands.

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Dusting off my old armour, it gleams just like snow;
Bored, in the starlight my glistering sword I up hold.
Grant me a special bow to fell generals of the foe!
Leading the brave Yue troops, our lost Honour let's all restore.
Forget my wasted waiting in vain, it was like dreaming -
For our Country, I'm game for the Great Battle redeeming!

Frank Yue

Wave-Chaser Guy: Returning Geese Chase Evening Clouds Across The Sky ????? ??????? ????????

Autumn Thoughts

-by ????? "Wave-Chaser Guy"

Returning geese chase evening clouds across the sky;
In the sparse woods the crows perch on the old trees high.
Blowing by the Autumn winds the falling leaves fly;
Along both sides of the path to my home mums lie.

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Frank Yue

Wave-Chasing Guy: The Colourful Butterflies Dance High And Low In Envious Pair ??????? ???????

THE PAIR OF COLOURFUL BUTTERFLIES

- by "Wave-Chasing Guy"/"Night Moon Starry River" ???
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- Translated by Frank C Yue

The colourful Butterflies dance high and low in envious pair;
'Midst flowers along scented paths, they say 'Adieu' to the setting Sun.
In a blink, I watch the bygone Happiness with utter despair;
O! When could I return in dreams to the sweet'Tender-Land', more
once?

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Frank Yue

Wave-Chasing Guy: The Wind Is Gentle, The Rain, Fine ???? The Wind Is Gentle, The Rain, Fine, In This Flow'ry Year Just So Fair

"The wind is gentle, the rain, fine"

- by 'Wave-Chasing Guy' ?????

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The wind is gentle, the rain, fine,
In this Flow'ry Year just so fair;
Fragrant are the roses (at heart) ,
And the Golden Orb is so bright!
Of Autumn, again, it's that time
When to veil the Night thin clouds dare;
Though we're thousands of miles apart,
We will share the Full Moon to-night!

(2013.09.23)

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Frank Yue

Wave-Chasing Guy: Though We're Thousands Of Miles Apart, We Will Share The Full Moon To-Night! ???? ??? ???? ????????

-by 'Wave-Chasing Guy'????

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The wind is gentle, the rain, fine,
In this Flow'ry Year just so fair;
Fragrant are the roses (at heart) ,
And the Golden Orb is so bright!
Of Autumn, again, it's that time
When to veil the Night thin clouds dare;
Though we're thousands of miles apart,
We will share the Full Moon to-night!

(2013.09.22)

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Frank Yue

Wei Yingmu: No One's At The Country Ferry - Boats Play With The Waves ??? ??????? ????????

At the Stream West of Cuizhou

-by Wei Yingmu(737-789)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

By the stream the lonesome lush green grass to and fro sways;
Up in the deep woods nightingales are gaily singing.
Last night it rained and the rising Spring tide is swinging;
No one's at the country ferry -boats play with the waves.

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Frank Yue

Wei Yingwu: I Walk In The Cool Night Of Autumn Hue

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An Autumn Night Message to Squire Qiu

-by Wei Yingwu (737-789?)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

I walk in the cool night of Autumn hue,
Reciting poems and thinking of you.
In the still mountain I hear pine-cones fall. fall.
It seems you, too, are not sleepy at all.

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Frank Yue

Wei Zhuang's O Jiangnan Is Lovely! Says So Everybody.?? ????????

TUNE: "The Buddha Dancer"

-by Wei Zhuang

-Translated by Frank C Yue

O Jiangnan is lovely!

-Says so everybody.

Jiangnan's the place to grow old, only

For itinerant men on journeys.

The Spring waters blue as the skies deep,

Rains on painted boats herald sweet sleep.

Beside the wine stove

Like the Moon the maiden fair -

Her pair of fine wrists bare,

Like the frost and snow.

Unless you are an old man,

Return to your hometown never;

Returning to your hometown (-my friend) ,

You shall be heart-broken forever!

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Frank Yue

Wen Jiao: Boundless Is The Sky, Same For Knowledge-Wise ????????

Famous Couplet

-by WEN JIAO (Jin Dynasty)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Boundless is the Sky,
Same for Knowledge-wise.
One's Learning always falls short, through one's work it'll show.
There's no means to measure 'Small',
Same for 'Intelligence' for all.
How hard the Task is, till you've done it you'll ne'er know.

(2013.09.)

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Frank Yue

Wen Tianchang: O! Down The Ages In History Let My Crimson Heart Shine In Glory! ??????????????????

Crossing The Lonely Sea
- Wen Tianchang (Song Dynasty)

Encountering numerous dire situations,
Out of the sages' teachings was born my devotion.
With few troops we fought here and there
For four bitter long years.
My dear motherland shattered,
Like drifting catkins scattered;
My life's like a rootless plant floating,
Constantly by the cruel rains hitting.

Fleeing down the Beach of Fear, fear we had shown;
Outside the Lonely Sea, we were so alone.
Since Time began, there's no one one can find -
To die who can ever decline?
O! Down the ages in history
Let my crimson heart shine in glory!

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Frank Yue

Wen Tingyun: Around The Old Castle Yellow Leaves Fall, Spiritedly, You Walk Past Old Tower Tall???? ????? ?????

Sòng Rén Dong Yóu:

"Seeing Someone Off to the East"

- by Wen Tingyun (812-870)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Around the old castle yellow leaves fall;
Spiritedly, you walk past old tower tall.
A high wind at the Hanyang ferry blows;
The sunrise atop Qingmen Mountain glows.
Hardly anyone's on the river clear;
At the end of the skies lone sail appears.
O Why can't you say when you'll return, dear?
Let's have some wine to drown away our tears!

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Frank Yue

Wen Zhengming: Upon Winning, Always Killed Are Ablest Men Clever - ??? ??????? ????????

TUNE: MAN JIANG HONG (ALL RED THE RIVER!)

- by WEN ZHENGMING (1470-1559)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

After cleaning up the old broken tablet,
Royal decree for General Yue faintly can be read.
Pity! He was relied on so heavily before;
Afterwards, the General was forsaken all the more!
Upon winning, always killed are ablest men clever -
Fait accompli and no words can redeem them e'er!
So innocent, piteous, worthy of adoration -
O! The General's wrongful, woeful incarceration!

How can one e'er ignore the Middle Kingdom's plight?
How can one forget: for th' abducted Sov'reigns' fight?
However, were the two ex-Emperors back to power,
The incumbent would certainly lose his finest hour!
So, ne'er talk of any wrongful southern-crossing,
Nor re-taking lost land, lest there'll be throne-tossing!
At this all I can only laugh -
What could a mere Prime Minister do
But bidding on the Emp'ror's behalf!

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Frank Yue

We're One: We're The Earth, The Moon And The Sun...

We're ONE: We're the Earth, the Moon and the Sun...
What you dish out comes around, it is true.
We're ONE: We're you, him, her, them and the Son!
What you do to others, you do to you!
Poison rivers: You poison yourself, too.
Through food chains the poison's back unto you!

But what you do to the least brother of mine
You've done the same good deed to the Divine.
What's this life if, so short and full of care,
Our compassion and fortune we ne'er share?
We are the salt and the light of the world:
Live not only by bread, but by the Word!

Each time before you speak, think deep and hard.
Flying arrows are insulting, angry words.
Beautiful things, relations may be scarred;
Harsh words return to hurt like nesting birds.
O Sacrament of Reconciliation-
Sins wiped out - such wondrous celebration!

We are the branch, Lord Jesus is the Vine.
Let the Divine Spark in each of us glow.
Through Him, with Him, in Him, we'll never die!
May God's loving Grace in us, through us, flow!
As Christians, we all on our forehead bear
Sweet Jesus' holy sign of the Cross fair.

Our Lord dies for each of us on a tree
From sins and death to set all of us free!
Precious Blood, Water flow for you and me
On Fridays on the hill at Calvary.
Our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection

Have gained for us eternal Salvation!

The less sins we bear, the more Grace we'll share.
Whoe'er dwells in Me, I in her or him.
Walk with your own cross; on Christ's body fare!
In distress, none shall be out on a limb.
Walk the straight and narrow behind the Christ.
By temptations, falsehoods, don't be enticed!

We're ONE: the universe, innumerable suns...
Made of star dust are the galaxies... you and I.
We're ONE: God is LOVE; He's in you, me and the Son!
All mankind's ONE family under the same sky!
This a poor life if, short and full of care,
To love, to dream, to worship, we ne'er dare!

We're God's children -spir'tual beings -learning, you see,
In His image, His temple, TO LOVE endlessly!

WORLD MISSION DAY MISSION INTENTION:

That the celebration of World Mission Day may help all Christians realize that we are not only receivers but proclaimers of God's Word.

(2013.0.20)

Frank Yue

When On The World The Silent Mist Begins To Fall

"When on the World the Silent Mist Begins to Fall"
-Frank C Yue

When on the world the silent mist begins to fall,
Our bygone days my wife and I recall
While we're getting older and older,
Our jobs for the young are over.
Who can be there for us?
There is not anyone who must.

We should never expect too much
From those now not much in touch.
All these sound like a sad tone,
But we would likely be alone.

Our children have their own family;
Theirs naturally is their priority
To love, to teach and care for.
That's the circle of life for evermore.

The most important woman in my life
Is my sweet, pretty, little wife -
My soulmate and special friend,
Our joint ventures just wouldn't end.

Still, with my True Love hand in hand,
The two of us will walk this land till the very end.
After fighting the good fight,
We hope we'll see God's glory and might.

Frank Yue

When The Whole World Is Covid-Infested And In Agony Can You Among Others Be Healthy?

When the whole world is COVID-infested and in agony

Can you among others be healthy?

When the world is short of water for agriculture and drinking

Fresh water can you keep on squandering?

When the whole world is ailing

Can you gaily go sailing?

When people in wars face great hardship and death

Can you still be so blind, mute and deaf?

When for help the world's crying out

Can you be gaily rambling about?

When great patches of the world are burning

Can you be merry-making?

When the world focuses on gains and pure gratification

Can you pass a resourceful land to your younger generation?

When the whole world slowly dies of self-destruction

Can you live on an island in isolation?

(2010.11.08)

Frank Yue

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me???????? ??????? ?? ????? ????????

WHEN TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME

-Author Unknown

When tomorrow starts without me,
And I am not here to see,
If the Sun should rise and see your eyes,
Filled with tears for me.
I wish so much you wouldn't cry,
The way you did today,
While thinking of the many
Things we didn't get to say.

I know how much you love me,
As much as I love you,
And each time you think of me,
I know you'll miss me too.
When tomorrow starts without me,
Don't think we're far apart,
For every time you think of me,
I'm right here in your heart.

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Frank Yue

When You Are Healthy And Strong Sickness Can't Stick Around For Long ??????????!

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When you are healthy and strong,
Sickness can't stick around for long.
When you are weak and frail,
Then most sickness shall prevail!

Frank Yue

Where Are You, My Sweet Little Plump Plum? (2 Of 3)

This poem is the second chapter in the following:

1. In Praise Of Last-Minute Cruises (1 Of 3)
2. Where are you, my sweet little Plump Plum? (2 Of 3)
3. An Encounter with Merpati Putih on the Oosterdam (3 Of 3)

Where are you, my sweet little Plump Plum?
O, back to me, please do come!
Are you mad at me? Why are you hiding?
Just a little misunderstanding -
After washing you carefully,
I meant to consume you at home lovingly...

My sweet little Plump Plum, I miss you!
And you should miss me too.
O mine,
Wherever you are I hope you'll be fine.
Did I drop you on the airport bus?
Did I hurt your juicy little butt?

For the price of a song, my wife and I
At the last minute, are going to fly
And join a 17-day cruise you see,
From San Diego to Hawaii!
It's the Holland America line,
On the not-so-young "Oosterdam" fine.

On connecting flights, our food we have to buy -
So I'd better eat you on the plane, thought I.
Toronto can be quite cold,
In Honolulu it's not so.
I have many layers of clothing:
In which pocket are you in? I keep forgetting!

With lights dimmed during the flight,

It's hard to find anything, try as one might.
By the time you're reunited with me,
In Vancouver we may soon be.
Some 3,400 km we have flown,
But from now on you'll never be alone.

In the rainy Garden City,
A flurry of activity -
With relatives having dinner, lunch and tea,
Visiting my housebound elderly sister,
And my wife's step grandmother's new grave:
Wind and heavy downpours we have to brave.

At his apartment, my wife's uncle wants us to stay
In Bellingham across the border.
He drives us there during the day;
An hour later we're at Bellis Fair where
We have lunch and window shopping in short order.
Early next morning, we return to Canada.

But that you're still in my pocket quietly,
I just forget totally...
It was lucky for me -
Well, you see,
For bringing fruits into the U.S.A., alas,
Each fruit attracts a fine of \$300!

With that thought or hindsight, thankfully,
And certainly with no further tarry,
Happily, happily,
My teeth I quickly
Plunge into you, my sweet plump
Little juicy Plum!

(Ha-haa...!)

Frank Yue

Where Did The Half Dozen Moths Come From Suddenly?

Where did the half dozen moths come from suddenly?
My wife and I were mystified naturally.
These days this was the question uppermost on my mind;
In our flat was there a nest of moths that I could find?
An air-conditioned condo apartment we live in;
With windows closed, there's no way any insect can fly in.

Of moths in our flat the annual average population
Is about two to three, but why this sudden explosion?
This little mystery happening in our home
Had awakened in me my own Sherlock Holmes.
Thus I searched and sought here and there'
But there was no trace of the moths anywhere.

Not a man to give up easily,
I pondered about this and that almost daily.
Then as I prepared to cook a big pot of soup
I put some dry lily seeds in a bowl
Of water; hours later there were two moths swimming
And some white eggs on the water floating!

I remember a bag of dry lily seeds buying
Some months ago and some red bean dessert having.
Hurriedly, I took the bag of lily seeds from the pantry;
Ah! The bag's full of moths and tiny caterpillars!
For reproduction the moths are most eager -
Be sure to keep your dry foods in air-tight containers!

Frank Yue

Who Has Seen The Air? Qui A Vu L'air? Ni Moi Ni Vous

Who has seen the air?
Neither I nor you -
Though when we look up at the sky there,
The Earth's thin veil appears blue.

Who has seen the air?
Neither you nor I -
But when the birds spread their wings to fly,
The air lifts them up so high.

"Qui a vu l'air? "

Qui a vu l'air?
Ni moi ni vous -
Bien que quand nous
regardons le ciel là-bas,
Le voile mince de la Terre apparaît bleu.

Qui a vu l'air?
Ni moi ni vous-
Mais quand les oiseaux écartent leurs ailes
pour voler,
L'air les soulève si haut partout.

Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: A Study Full Of Books And Zheng, A Serene Study Filled With Zen ????? ?????? ?? ????????

Springtime Sentiments

-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning

-Translated by Frank C Yue

A study full of books and zheng,
A serene study filled with Zen -
Blowing warm the East Breeze has been;
Drunk with it up the chamber I'm seen.

In my life now I won't care
About matters of state affairs.
The Sun and Moon move leisurely,
What joy many a sight to see!

(2016.05.01)

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Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: Along The Embankment I Go Rambling, Among Many A Green Willow ???? ?????? ????????

Rambling along the Hangzhou Embankment
-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Along the embankment I go rambling,
Among many a green willow -
Through the lake's waves misting,
Painted ships are returning.

From the Thunder Peak Pagoda tow'ring,
The setting Sun casts a long shadow.
Above the many layered hills,
Beyond the restaurant hang red clouds still.
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(2016.05.07)

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Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: At The Long Embankment 'neath The Green Willows ???? ?????? ? ??????

Boating beneath the Moon
-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning
-Translated by Frank C Yue

At the long embankment 'neath the green willows
We get onto the small boat there;
Moon-cast shadows over the river fair
The young Night faithfully follows.
The water rippled by the breeze softly;
Glimpses of fishers' lights come casually.

(2016.05.01)

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“Boating beneath the Moon”
-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning
-Translated by Frank C Yue

At the long embankment 'neath the green willows
We get onto the small boat there;
Moon-cast shadows over the river fair
The young Night faithfully follows.
The water rippled by the breeze softly;

Glimpses of fishers' lights come casually.

Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: In A Wooden Boat On The Sea I Am Floating Free ?????????? ??????????

Lone Boat Cold Angling
-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning
-Translated by Frank C Yue

In a wooden boat on the sea

I am floating free;

On the lake with waves misting,

In leisure the sea-gulls I'm watching.

Alone I go Winter angling

When on the river snow's falling;

The watery world seems endless,

I'm used to this roaming ceaseless.

(2016.05.01)

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Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: Jiangnan Reigns - For Several Miles, Red Are The Blossoms Apricot ??? ?????

TUNE: "Remembering Jiangnan" Ci (Song)

TITLE: "Jiangnan Apricot Blossoms"

-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Jiangnan reigns -
For several miles,
Red are the blossoms apricot.
Of rouge, ten thousand dots -
Moistened with dew and rains.
All in myriad postures,
In the Spring breeze they're all smiles.
Through all the mists and rains,
Their sweet fragrance prevails.

(2016.05.15)

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Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: The Gilded Crimson Rising Sun Smiles Upon The Peach Blossoms Crimson???? ??????? ????????:

"Springtime at Jiangnan"
- by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning
- Translated by Frank C Yue

The gilded crimson rising Sun
Smiles upon the peach blossoms crimson;
The dim distant embankment pale
And the willows by Haze are veiled.

Caressed by the Spring Breeze fine,
The painted bridge and running water.
By nature, Jiangnan in the Springtime -
O So exquisitely embroidered!

(2016.05.31)

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Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: The Painted Bridge, In Between, And The Hazy Willows???? ??????? ????????

Rambling at West Lake

-by Cloud Wind Thunder Lightning

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The painted bridge, in between,
And the hazy willows,
Up and down the embankment green,
In leisure rambling tourists are seen.

Tolls of the Temple bell out-of-sight
Are carried far away by the wind;
The single patch of red clouds bright
Paints the mountain lake a pretty sight.

(2016.05.13)

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Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: The Stream Flows Through Misting Smoke In The Sun Setting???? ?????? ?? ????????

Leisurely Living

-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning

-Translated by Frank C Yue

The stream flows through misting smoke in the Sun setting;
In the quiet Spring garden the petals a-drifting.
Warm breeze, fragrant green grass and willows on the sand -
The road leads to m'home with lilacs on either hand.

(2016.04.26)

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Frank Yue

Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning: The Wind Carrying Lotus Fragrance Fine -I Think Doubly Of You, Lady Of Mine ????? ??????? ????????

"Reverie"
-by Wind Cloud Thunder Lightning
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The wind carrying lotus fragrance fine -
I think doubly of you, Lady of mine.
The phoenix has flown to a foreign place,
Leaving behind not even a slight trace.

Over here bamboo shadows a-dancing;
Now the thin night clouds start appearing.
With deep yearning, I gaze at the Moon bright;
In dreams I would see you again tonight.

(2016.08.16)

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Frank Yue

With No Roots The Floating Plant Drifts By ??????? ???? ????

Chinese Couplet

- Anon

- Translated by Frank C Yue

With no roots the floating plant just drifts by,
Ask not my name - a wanderlust at the edge of the sky.

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Frank Yue

Xin Qiji: In My Youth I Had No Idea Of The Meaning Of Sorrow ???

TUNE: Chou Nu Er "Ugly Boy-Servant"/
Cai Sang Zi "Picking Mulberries"
TITLE: "Written on a Wall on the Way to Boshan"
-by Xin Qiji (1140-1207)
-Translated by ????
'Transcendence Swordsman'

In my youth I had no idea of the meaning of sorrow;
I leisurely climbed another floor,
I leisurely climbed another floor,
Seeking new verses to express my pretentious sadness, hollow.

Now I have tasted life in its deepest of stress, in disbelief,
Silenced, feeling sick and tired,
Silenced, feeling sick and tired,
I would rather a leisurely cool day instead of, the autumn grief.

(2014.08.18)

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Frank Yue

Xin Qiji: In My Youth I Knew Not What Were Grief And Woe ??? ?????? ????

TUNE: Chou Nu Er "Ugly Boy-Servant";/
Cai Sang Zi "Picking Mulberries";
TITLE: "Written on a Wall on the Way to Boshan";
- by Xin Qiji (1140-1207)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

In my youth I knew not what were grief and woe -
Up the storeys I loved to go.
Up the storeys I loved to go,
For my new songs I just feigned my grief and woe!

Of grief and woe I've tasted the flavours today -
I'd like to talk but just wouldn't say;
I'd like to talk but just wouldn't say,
O! What a chilly Autumn, what a fine day!

and a fine rendition by - ??? 'Night Moon Starry River':

While young I failed to know the taste of woe.
I climbed upstairs with gusto;
I climbed upstairs with gusto.
I used to write new songs with fake sorrow.

Now I know the taste of grief as I grow.
Try to speak but I stall though;
Try to speak but I stall though.
" A cool fall day! "I finally say so.

(2014.08.01)

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Now, for a better appreciation of this famous xin qiji long-and-short verse, let's see how some of the masters of translation do their own rendition.

Rendition 1

-by ??? Lin Yutang(1895 - 1976)

In my young days,
I had tasted only gladness,
But loved to mount the top floor,
But loved to mount the top floor,
To write a song pretending sadness.

And now I have tasted
Sorrow's flavours, bitter and sour,
And can't find a word,
And can't find a word.
But merely say, "What a golden autumn hour!

Rendition 2

-by ??? Yang Xianyi (1915-2009)

"Written on the Wall on My Way to Boshan -to the Melody Chou Nu Er"

As a lad I never knew the taste of sorrow,
But loved to climb towers,
Loved to climb towers,
And drag sorrow into each new song I sung.

Now I know well the taste of sorrow,

It is on the tip of my tongue,
On the tip of my tongue,
But instead I say, "What a fine, cool autumn day!"

Rendition 3

-by Fr. John r (? -1971)

"Enlightenment"

In youth, ere Grief to me was known
I loved to climb on high, I loved to climb on high:
In many a laboured lay
Grief would I there portray.

But now, with Grief familiar grown,
Slower to speak am I, slower to speak am I.
At most, I pause and say,
"What a fine autumn day!"

Rendition 4

-by Xu Yuanchong(1921-)

Tune: "Song of Ugly Slave - Written on the Wall on My Way to
Boshan"

While young, I knew no grief I could not bear;
I'd like to go upstairs.
I'd like to go upstairs
To write new verses with a false despair.

I know what grief is now that I am old;
I would not have it told.
I would not have it told,
But only say I'm glad that autumn's cold.

Rendition 5

-Andrew W.F. Wong (Huang Hongfa):

23 May 2007 (revised 18.7.07; 5.12.07; further revised...30.11.10)

Xin Qiji (1140-1207)

Tune: "Chou Nu Er (The Ugly Page) /

"Cai Sang Zi (Picking Mulberries) "

Title: "Written on a Wall on the Way to Boshan"

1When young I never did know the taste of woe or sorrow,

2To the top floor upstairs, I loved to go;

3To the top floor upstairs, I loved to go,

4For to compose new verses, I feigned my sorrow and woe.

5Now that sorrow and woe I've tasted, and the bitterness withal,

6To speak, I wish, and yet I stall;

7To speak, I wish, and yet I stall,

8What a beautifully chilly autumn! I say, after all.

Frank Yue

Xin Qiji's Forever A-Meeting Happiness Ci ????? ??????

Tune: YONGYULE (Forever A-Meeting Happiness)

Title: Reminiscing the Past at Jingkou North Consolidation Mansion- - by Xin Qiji (1140-1207)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

'Midst age-old rivers and hills 'round this ground,
The great Hero is nowhere to be found.
Alas, gone whereto
Had the King of Wu?
Ornate stage - with fine dance and song,
Whipp'd by timeless rains and winds strong,
With gallant free-spirited souls - were gone.
Slanting Sun shines on grass and trees,
Open fields, common lanes on these,
Where the Song Emp'ror lived ere power he seized.
Hark'ning back to the days of old -
Golden halberd on iron horse bold,
Like a fierce tiger - vanquished were the foes!

Due course the Yuanjia years veered off;
Half-baked plans, to re-take the North,
Gained anxious watch o'er the River with sighs soft!
Ever since long years forty-three,
In forlorn hope I still remember these
Battle smokes which over Yangzhou did freeze!
This isn't what I want to recall:
Inside occupied Fuli Temple tall
Temple crows and drums are in noisy crawl.
Now, who would e'er ask (and re-state)
Of the aging General great,
"Your appetite - your fill, do you still ate? "

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Frank Yue

Xin Qiji's Green Jade Table Ci ？？？ ？？？？？？？

Tune: Green Jade Table Ci

Title: Chinese Valentine's Night (First Full Moon of the Year)

- by Xin Qiji (1140 - 1207)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

When at Night blows the East Wind
Thousands of blooming lanterns are seen;
And up high in the Sky,
Loud fireworks burst again and again,
Brilliant sparks showering like rain.
Fine steeds, carved carriages,
And perfume fill up the roads.
Amid the flute's notes joyful
Liquid Moonlight e'erywhere a-flooding -
All through the Night fish, dragons a-dancing.

Hairpins shaped like a moth, snow willow,
Tiny gold threads to and fro swaying -
Sounds of laughter, soft talks receding
With faint fragrance to follow.
In the huge crowds, her I must find!
I search and search for countless times...
Suddenly -
Turning my head,
She's there instead
Where the lights glow dimly.

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Xin Qizi: Drunk, I Brightened Up The Lamp To Examine The Sword With My Name??? ?????? ??????

Tune: Shattering The Enemy Formations

Tune:

- XIN QIZI

Drunk, I brightened up the lamp
To examine the sword with my name;
In my dream, I heard war horns sounding -
From battalions to battalions resounding!
Under the Marshall's great banner,
The armies marched for eight hundred miles.
The fifty-string instrument playing with frontiers rhythm;
Reviewing the troops on the battleground in Autumn.
The fine horses charged forth like lightning,
Like thunders, myriad bow-strings roaring.
To wrap up the Emperor's state affairs -
To gain great glory I was willing to die,
Alas! Just a white-haired old man now am I!

(2020.11.13)

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Frank Yue

Yang Jiong: A String Of Bright Beacon Fire Lights Up The Capital ?????? ??????

"Marching With The Armies"

- Yang Jiong (Tang Dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

A String of bright beacon fires lights up the Capital;
My blood's boiling, my heart's crying out for battle!
Leaving Changan with royal warrant hastily,
Armoured cavalries aim to besiege the enemy city.

Painted banners are dimmed by the heavy snows pelting,
Thundering war drums are heard amidst the gusts howling.
O, To be a fighting centurion I'd be most willing,
Rather than a verse-reciting scholarly weakling!

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Frank Yue

Yang Manli's "Small Pond"; ??????? ???????

"Small Pond";
-Yang Manli (Song Dynasty)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

The spring's eye flows gently and quietly,
On shades the Sun shines softly -
Tiny lotus buds water a-breaking,
On them dragonflies already standing.

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Frank Yue

Yu Guangzhong's If Parting Is A Fast Knife

"A Farewell to Hong Kong"

- by Yu Guangzhong (1928-2017)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

If parting is a fast knife,
Then in a flash wield the blade sharp,
Cut me up! (O Strike!)
Cut me into two parts -
Like a severed Lotus Root crying out in pain -
One, called "From Now On", the other, "The Past" (in
vain) .

At the centre, unbreakable fibres shall stay,
Linking up the Horizon far, far away -
One end tucking at your hill-side,
One end tucking at my eye;
One end tucking at your home,
One end tucking at my sorrowful dome.

Frank Yue

Yu Guangzhong's Wherever I Go ????? ???

Wherever I Go

- by Yu Guangzhong (1928-2017)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Wherever I go, the sounds of clapping
Always arise around me like flocks of dove ascending.
Such riotous clapping!
White feathers upon white feathers flashing -
It shakes the hall holding a thousand men,
It dims and sways the lights then.
The sounds lash and lash at the drowning eddy -
At the centre of all this is me.

.....

But no dove-breeder am I,
The pleasing clapping, by and by,
Can reach my heart never.
All the beautiful white feathers,
All the beautiful feathers white -
Mere transient illusions bright!

Where I want to go, the place
Is a kind of no-man's-land in space;
A kind of Gobi on maps uncharted;
A kind of super-human climate;
Those who come are undaunted.
There's no dove flock, only vultures are these,
Hovering, hovering above the heads of the weakling,
Awaiting for the final feast.

Wherever I go,
Clapping always arise like flocks of ascending dove.
My heart's so painful and desolate, I know
The thousand or ten thousand doves that come along
Are but empty illusions -
Not one will accompany me on my journey long.

"????" ??? (1928-2017)

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Frank Yue

Yu Guangzhong's Yearning For M'hometown ?? ???

Yearning for M'Hometown

- by Yu Guangzhong (1928-2017)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

When I was small

Did I have yearning for m'Hometown at all?

Nostalgia was a small, small stamp -

I was here,

My Mom was there.

As a grown-up (as time went by)

I still had yearning for m'Hometown, and why?

Nostalgia was a slim, slim steamer ticket -

I was here,

My bride was there.

Then later on,

My Hometown-yearning was growing strong:

Nostalgia was a low, low grave-site -

I was out-side,

My Mom was in-side.

And now,

More and more, for what am I yearning?

Nostalgia is a shallow, shallow strait dividing -

I am here,

The Mainland is there.

«??»??? (1928-2017)

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Frank Yue

Yu Kwangzhong's The Bath Of Fire In The Hot, Hot East There Is A Phoenix

The Bath of Fire

- by Yu Kwangzhong (1928-2017)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

In the hot, hot East

There is a Phoenix that came from the fire

And returning to the fire will ne'er cease.

A fiery footprint, each step of the Phoenix,

In red-hot flames dancing;

All the Crows are burnt to death, but not this one,

O the young Phoenix -

A feathery ray of the Sun

Arising, in Eternity pulsating.

Frank Yue

Yu Xiuhau's The Moonlight Kisses My Left Hand ?????? ???????

The Moonlight Kisses My Left Hand (An Anthology, Page 3)

- by Yu Xiuhau (1976-)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

One Drop pushes on another, Falling...
Fusion is destruction,
Destruction, fusion.
But how long must One wait, by and by,
Before One may return to the Sky?

In the Sky, for how long must One stay
Before One goes on his or her way
To the process of Falling?
As I flick the cigarette ash away,
Another ring of ash is appearing.

I love a person till he sleeps in the tomb,
Already, another One is in the womb.
When onto different places Raindrops fall,
They give rise to different sounds after all.

No one, no one
Disappears faster than anyone.
There is no one in the Rain,
Then again,
No one is not in the Rain.

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2014?5?21?

Frank Yue

Yuan Haowen's Song Of The Wild Geese Mound ??????

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Song of the Wild Geese Mound
- by Yuan Haowen (1190-1257)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Prologue

In the fifth year of Tai He (1205) , on my way to the official examination at Pengzhou, I chanced upon a wild-geese hunter who said, "I caught a goose this morning and killed it. The other goose that escaped from my net wailed sadly and would not leave. Then it committed suicide by crashing onto the ground." So I bought the dead fowls, buried them by the Feng River, piled rocks on the site as a marker and called it the wild geese mound. At the time, most of my companions wrote poems about this incident. I also wrote the "Wild-Geese Mound Ci (Song) " as follows:

The Wild-Geese Mound Song

I ask of the world, "What is love" and why

Love just moves some creatures to live or die?

To the north and to the south too,

The pair of travellers flying -

Many a winter and summer through,

The loving old couple been winging.

O Such joy and fun,

But sorrow follows when the parting's done.

These are obsessed soul-mates also.

The surviving fowl would ask (with a bitter smile)-
Through cloud layers stretching thousands of miles,
Above myriad hills and evening snow,
To whom should this lonely shadow go?

By the Feng River (where they're buried) ,
Gone are the songs and music merry;
Above the woods on the plain rolling,
Desolate smoke still a-rising.
Calling forth the ghosts of the geese dead,
I sigh and sigh in vain instead.
Amidst the wind and rain,
I seem to hear the geese cries again.
Heaven may be jealous too,
Won't you believe it? (I'll tell you true) :
When orioles, swallows die they'd never
Gain anything like glory;
But the lover-geese shall live forever
In our hearts and our stories.
From here to eternity,
Poets would come to the Wild Geese Mound

To drink and sing praises mighty

To the Faithful Couple by great Love bound.

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Frank Yue

Yuan Mu: In The Deep Of The Night The Watchman's Hand-Drum Sounds In Haste?? ?????? ??????

The Fifteenth Night of the Twelfth Month

-by Yuan Mu (1716-1797)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In the deep of the night
The watchman's hand-drum sounds in haste;
By and by, pillow-talks put to flight.
Blowing out my lamp,
More brilliant seem the windows all -
For, lights up, the Moon bright
The whole skies from which white snows did fall.

(20116.04.)

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Frank Yue

Yuan Mu: Where You See Water But No Rice, It Is Not Congee ?? ????? ??? ??????? ???

From "The Sui Yuan Menu" Sub-Menu "Rice and Congee"
-by Yuan Mu (1716-1797)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Where you see water but no rice,
It is not congee.
Where you see rice but no water,
It is not congee.
Water, rice should be homogenized;
Where one they are all,
And it's smooth and fine -
Only then, congee can this be call'd.

(2016.04.21)

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Frank Yue

Yuan Mu's Expressing My Sentiments ????????,????????

- translation of a Qing poem

Only when you do want to find Poetry,
Awaiting you then shall be the same Beauty;
A spark of Inspiration true,
That's my Teacher too.

The fragrant grass, the setting Sun,
These and other ordinary things -
In weaving them seamlessly into One,
They would just make excellent verses sing!

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Frank Yue

Yuan Zhen: Inside The Cold, Hollow, Ancient Resort Palace Lonel ?? ????? ??????

XING GONG: "The Resort Palace"
-YUAN ZHEN (779-831)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Inside the cold, hollow, ancient Resort Palace lonely,
Quiet red flowers bloom in the imperial garden.
A handful of white-hair'd courtesans, locked-in without pardon,
Sat around and talked of Emperor Xuanzong leisurely.

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Frank Yue

Yuan Zhen: No Other Waters Could Impress Me For I've Seen The Vast Seas ?? ??????? ????????

LI SI: "Thoughts of Separation" No.4 (of 5)

-YUAN ZHEN (779-831)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

No other waters could impress me for I've seen the vast seas;
Having viewed majestic Witch'd Mountain, me other clouds can't please.
I will never glance again at other flowers -(to you I vow)-
For my destined Love is half for you, Dear, and half for the Dao!

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Frank Yue

Yue Fei My Helmet Is Raised In Anger By Bristl'ng Hair As I Stand By The Railing Here ????? ??? ?????

Tune: MAN JIANG HONG ("All Red The River! ")

- by YUE FEI (1103-1142)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

My helmet is raised in anger by bristl'ng hair
As I stand by the railing here.
The driving rains cease.
I lift up my eyes to see,
Bellowing out a long cry toward the dark'ning skies -
My emotions are fierce and high!
Thirty years of honour and merit
Are nothing but dirt and grit.
I travelled eight thousand long miles,
By the clouds and the Moon beguiled.
Waiting idly, don't just remain.
Lest youthful heads turn white -you'll wail in vain!

The shame of Two Emper'rs' Abduction ne'er vindicated!
O When will loyal courtier's lament be eradicated?
We shall drive our chariots en mass
To crush the foe at Mount Helan Pass!
I resolve to gorge on Tartar's flesh in hunger,
Drink in thirst the Hun's blood amid talks and laughter!
Let's start anew to free our occupied homeland -
We'll report triumphant to the Imperial Court then.

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Frank Yue

Yue Fei: In Battle Uniform, Caked With Year-Old Mud And Dust Still ?? ??????? ????????

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CHI ZHOU CUI WEI TING

(“Cui Wei Pavilion at Chi Zhou”)

-by YUE FEI (1103-1142)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In battle uniform, caked with year-old mud and dust still,
Sight-seeing at the Pavilion, I rode straight up the hill.
All these wondrous scenes, hills and rills, I can't take in out-right!
Now, mounted scouts urge my return at once in moon-light bright.

Frank Yue

Yue Fei: Last Night Crickets Chirped Ceaseless In The Cold ??????? ???? ??????

TUNE: SIU CHONG SHAN ("THE TWIN HILLOCKS")

-by Yue Fei (1103-1142)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Last night crickets chirped ceaseless in the cold.
Awaken'd from my marathon-campaign dream of old,
It was already the third watch, I found.
Getting up, alone I pace the courtyard round and round.
Silently I stroll (others are sleeping) -
Outside the curtain, the Moon is hazily shining.

My head's now white, all for victories and fame;
Aging are old-hill pines, bamboos with my name.
Obstacles abound on return route same.
O Were I to express innermost feelings through my qin -
Too few aud'ence! Sounds of broken string, to listen who'll begin?

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Yue's (The Fool's) Self-Defence Guidelines: ??????? (4 Of 5)

This poem is the final chapter in the following:

1. A Winning Self-Defence Strategy(1 Of 5)
2. I'll Be Seeing You, "Mr Punchman", Come Shine Or Rain! (2 Of 5)
3. An Encounter With Merpati Putih on the "Oosterdam"; (3 Of 5)
4. THE FOOL'S SELF-DEFENCE GUIDELINES (4 Of 5)
- 5.36 (5 Of 5)

"THE FOOL'S SELF-DEFENCE GUIDELINES" - A RESTRICTED OVERVIEW
- by Frank C Yue

Prologue:

The best defence is no offence -
Win without fighting if you can.
Failing that,
Don't be there!
Never find yourself in
Any dangerous scene.

Breathe normally, be still and calm;
Loosely hang shoulders and wrists down.
Direct Qi to two inches below your navel;
Your expressions and postures should be natural.
Take in assailant's whole image in your vision,
With all ears to sounds from all direction.

To shun hazardous situations, it's imperative -
Always be alert, prepared and non-combative.
Against hostility, assertiveness apportion,
Yet be quiet as a maiden before action.
Walk away from insults, douse any teething anger;

Don't be bewildered when suddenly facing danger!

Of your own strengths and your enemy's, be sure;
But move like lightning when fighting is assured.
Circles re-direct linear force;
Compliance controls violence.
Apply minimal force to match the mug;
Ne'er blindly pursue a desperate thug.

When shoved, just bend his little finger;
Leave the first strike to your attacker.
When your assailant chokes you with both arms -
Block strongly with up-and-down ripping palms,
SHUTO his collar-bone with speed,
While kicking into his knee!

When your assailant starts a punching attack -
Side-step, deflect and spear his neck.
Pull him in with left hand and push with your right;
While leaning forward with might
Apply rear-arm choke plus hand lock,
And a forward bow stance adopt.

When you're thrown, place palm inward on the ground,
Bend your elbow, roll along forward round;
Chuck in your chin during your mid-air flight,
Push under-foot, back-kick, turn round upright.
Never punch with locked elbow or just in jest;
Use the leg to block, but kick no higher than the chest.

Elbows for in-fighting, kicks for longest reach;
Smoothly flow into and through openings breach!
When assailant means to kill -
Be sharp, brave and intuitive.
On your side then rightly with Right -
Presume you were dead: fight for Life!

With body and footwork in accord:
Your shoulders and hips should all afford
Your hands, wrists, elbows, knees and feet
For your will, Qi and power to meet.
Strike out at the same time you block -

Fight like lightning to beat the clock.

Be smooth, relaxed, accurate; on connecting
Your small finger, under-arm and fist tensing!
After impact, release tenseness: be supple;
Be fast, decisive, ruthless and forcible -
Never hold back when fully assaulting;
Use substantive and non-substantive footing.

Do employ many a feint -
Create openings and go in!
Attack persistently, each time a new target;
Relax limbs to strike but tense muscles on contact!
With each finishing strike, give out "KAI-AI"; shout;
When enemy is down, don't stop the assault.

Vary tempos of attack -
The best plan: Run while you can!
Retrieve your legs and fists like lightning;
Turn your hips and shoulders while striking,
And focus your ALL at the punch -
Like a wheel, your waist should be spun!

Expense eighty percent strength in attack, the rest, defence.
Exhale through your mouth, inhale through your nose;
To withhold your breath, howe'er, is not right.
Your body extending or contracting:
Keep your back upright.
From enemy helper, stealth attacks you may attract -

Though you're injured, you MUST carry on the combat!
With perfect technique and might -
"Knock-Out! " with a single strike!
Strike each blow as though it were your very last!
Anticipate your adversary's every move; cast
Your eyes with soft vision round him and at his.

When strike-kicking, align your nose with foot and fist!
In kicking, supporting toes grip the ground;
In punching, the pairing fists come around.
Use own weight and centrifugal force to strike out;
Exhale into your TAN-TIAN and force a hit stout!

In fine timing and distancing,

With accuracy and no lapses,
And the four-finger spear-hand slicing
Through four inches, soft target collapses!
Move swiftly, lightly, flexibly and unpredictably -
Shifting in-coming force with ease and harmony.
Evade strikes, leap, deflect, intercept and pound

Agilely like lightning but without a sound.
Turn head round to check behind,
And protect your centre-line!
About turn with outstretched palm,
Ready to gouge the eyes and "Wham! Wham!"
Abruptly attack vital points in chain -

Rain or shine, you should yourself train, train, train.
Fighting at once many opponents visualize;
Sharpening your skills further you would realize!
Our natural weapons -the head,
Eyes, teeth, saliva, sound and spear-hand,
The fist, URAKEN, hammer-fist and palm, HAITO, SHUTO and fore-arm,

The elbow, knee, ball-of-foot,
The in-step, heel and sword-foot.
Like coiled-spring, the kicking leg thrusts fast forth,
Do balance well to avoid a fall.
Before you are swarmed, promptly crush the gang leader,
Soften up nearest fighter, throw him at another.

Apply flying kicks, hand thrusts and lunge punch -
Quickly retreat when it comes to the crunch!
To over-power an edged fray,
Avoid always the cutting blade!
Grab, straighten and break the knife-arm,
Flatten his nose and take him down.

Attacker yells with club wielding -
Rush in and twist the arm bending,
Block and grab weapon hand with cross-palm,
Elbow the head and spear under-arm.
Pull enemy in off the floor:

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Frank Yue

Zen Fish: The Vast Sea Embraces The Round Moon Bright; The Bright, Full Moon Embraces The Sea Tight??????????

"A Disjointed Palindrome Poem" (a la Li Shangyin)
- by Frank C Yue (Zen Fish)

Disorder: Going on-line obsessive;
Disorder: Being on-line compulsive.
The vast sea embraces the round Moon bright;
The bright, full Moon embraces the sea tight.

Lost in and attached to affairs worldly -
Confused by secular things unholy.
Zhuangze dreams he is a Butterfly gay;
A Butterfly dreams it's Zhuangze all day!

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Frank Yue

Zhang Chao In My Youth, Reading Books -Is Like, Through A Crack, At The Moon Peeking ???? ,???????? ? ??? ?????

YOU MENG YING: "Quiet Dream Shadows"
-by ZHANG CHAO (1650 -?)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

In my Youth, reading books -
Is like, through a crack, at the Moon peeking;
Middle-aged, reading books -
Is like, in a courtyard, at the Moon looking;

In Old Age, reading books -
Is like, on a high terrace, the Moon admiring.
One's life experience and depth of comprehension,
Decide the depth -of a book, one's appreciation.

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Frank Yue

Zhang Ji's Night Mooring At Maple Bridge ????????

Slowly out of sight the Moon is setting,
Beneath the frosty skies the crows a-cawing;
The riverside maples and fishers' lights
Keep the traveller company in the sleepless night.

Outside Gusu City
Dwells the Hanshan Monastery;
Tolls of its midnight bell
Reach my boat like a rippling swell.

My other version:

Moon sets, crows cry, snows in all the skies;
River maple, fisher's light stare at my sad eyes.
Outside Gusu, sounds of the Cold Hill Temple bell,
At midnight, reach traveller's boat as well.

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The following translation is rendered by my mentor and friend,
Mr. Andrew W F Wong:

Zhang Ji (? -780) : Moored for the Night
by the Maple Bridge

The moon is down, ravens caw, a frostiness fills the sky;

By the riverside maples and fishing lights, sad, insomniac I lie.

Beyond the walls of Gusu City, where Hanshan Monastery stands,

Bong, goes the bell at midnight to touch the boat of the passer-by.

Translated by Andrew W.F. Wong
(Huang Hongfa) 黄宏发: 黄宏发

Frank Yue

Zhang Tingyu's Beyond This Single Tree Ailing, Myriad Woods Thrive Without Failing! ??? ????????, ????????!

“Along The Thousand-Miles Great Wall,
Now. Where Gone Have The Soldiers All? ”
- by ZHANG TINGYU (1672 - 1755)
- Translated by Frank C Yue

Going to the South and the North,
From East and West people come forth.
Like a merry-go-round -day in,
Day out -labouring they are seen.
From the start, empty were the Earth
And Skies: How many owners at birth?
In the still of the night deep,
The clear third-watch drum I hear;
Turning about, trying to sleep,
Sounds of the fifth-watch bell are near.

In a mood for meditation,
Pondering how we first began -
Everything is just illusion,
An elaborate dream in vain.
After all the toil and suffering,
Nothing to show for one's offering.
After death, all of us must
Return to the earth as dust.
When buried is our body
Gone with the wind our energy.

Our large stretch of thin skin naughty
Becomes pungent goo in potty.
You could have bought fine fields and mines,
Before you own final demise.
When the Great Leveller comes along
Your plot is only three-strides long!
In the end, all people must die;
Bury bones in fertile land -Why?
Live life to the full, it's advice sound;
Everywhere green hills may be found.

Along the thousand-miles Great Wall,
Now, where gone have the soldiers all?
For hundreds of generation,
The Hero's dream is mere delusion.
Of the sunken boat, by the side,
Many other sails lightly glide.
Beyond this single tree ailing,
Myriad woods thrive without failing!

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Frank Yue

Zhao Shixiu: In Summer Rain Comes A-Knocking At Homes Here And There ????????

Appointment with A Friend

-by Zhao Shixiu (1170~1219)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

In Summer rain comes a-knocking at homes here and there;
In the green grass and ponds croaking frogs are everywhere.
Past mid-night, my friend who says he would come is not here;
I rap on the chess pieces in leisure,
And knock off the lamp's burnt wick with pleasure.

(2016.04.14)

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Frank Yue

Zheng Banqiao Couplet For His Study: ??? ?????????? ? ????????????

Couplet Written by Zheng Banqiao for His Own Study

- by Zheng Banqiao (Qing dynasty)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

The hundred-foot-tall phoenix tree props up high the bright Moon round;
Several short houses can't lock in the midnight recital sound.

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Frank Yue

Zheng Chouyu: On My Way Home I See Wild Lilies ??? ????? ????????

On my way home I see
Wild lilies
In the valley stand
On both hands;
The rainbow is there lying And the wind, blowing -
Spears of lilies on the soft rainbow bridge a-walking,
They follow me, their slim waists swaying.

Beside my house, too many urchins there are,
Numerous like the stars:
They have taken away the evening.
And the lilies they also hold up
As if they're cups,
And the newly-brewed dew
Is so cold for me and you!

(2020.11.13)

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Frank Yue

Zhong Nanshan: Eating Well And Drinking Well May Not Be Healthy At All ????????

"Eating well and drinking well may not be healthy at all"

- by Zhong Nanshan (1936 -)

- Translated by Frank C Yue

Eating well and drinking well may not be healthy at all,
But knowing how to eat and drink surely brings forth good health,
Eating and drinking recklessly -you're setting up yourself
Into the deep of Illnesses for a nasty fall!

(2017.04.10)

"????????" ??? (1936 -)

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Frank Yue

Zhong Nanshan: Eat With Your Stomach -That's Where Your Life Dwells ????????

"Eat with your stomach -that's where your life dwells"
-by Zhong Nanshan (1936 -)
-Translated by Frank C Yue

Eat with your stomach -that's where your life dwells;
Eat with your mouth -you're enjoying yourself;
Eat with your brain -now for your own GOOD HEALTH!

(2017.04.10)

"????????" ??? (1936 -)

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Frank Yue

Zhu Xi: Last Night By Spring Floods The River Was Swelled And Spray'd ?? ?????? ????????

GUAN SHU YOU GAN: No.2 (of 2)

"Floating the Boats"

-by Zhu Xi (1130-1200)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

Last night by spring floods the river was swelled and spray'd;

Light as a feather now, the heavy warship sway.

The pulling, strains, and grunts were hardly the right way;

Mid-stream, enlightened boat glide effortless today!

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Frank Yue

Zhu Xi: Like A Mirror Opens The Half-Acre Square Pond ?? ??????? ????????

GUAN SHU YOU GAN: No.1 (of 2)

"What I Learn from Reading a Book"

-by Zhu Xi (1130-1200) (Southern Song)

-Translated by Frank Yue

Like a mirror opens the half-acre square pond;
Reflected sunlight, cloud shadows play, stay, and bond.
O, Tell me how can the water be clear like so?
From the source a divine, live fountainhead does flow!

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Frank Yue

?? • ?? Whoosh! Whoosh! " Winds Of The Valleys Blow ????? ????? ????? ????? ????? ?????

"WINDS OF THE VALLEYS"

-from "THE BOOK OF SONGS" (c.600 BC)

-Translated by Frank C Yue

"Whoosh! Whoosh! " Winds of the valleys blow -

Fierce, the driving winds and rains go!

You'd be so fearful and afraid,

And I hold your hand all the way!

We are so peaceful and happy,

But then you turn away from me!

"Whoosh! Whoosh! " Winds of the valleys blow -

Fierce the gusts, uprooted we'd go!

You'd be afraid (-I try my best) ,

And you hold me against your chest!

We are so peaceful and happy,

But then you just abandon me!

"Whoosh! Whoosh! " Winds of the valleys blow -

Over the mountains the winds flow!

Not a blade of grass could survive,

Not a tree could decline to die!

You, forget great virtues of mine,

Faults with my slight errors still find!

(2013.10.11)

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Frank Yue