

12.1

題鄴縣郭三十二明府茅屋壁

江頭且繫船，
為爾獨相憐。
雲散灌壇雨，
4 春青彭澤田。
頻驚適小國，
一擬問高天。
別後巴東路，
8 逢人問幾賢。

12.2

奉送崔都水翁下峽

無數涪江筏，
鳴橈總發時。
別離終不久，
4 宗族忍相遺。
白狗黃牛峽，
朝雲暮雨祠。

12.1

Written on the Wall of the Thatched Cottage of Magistrate Guo (32) of Qi County

I have tied my boat by the river awhile
because of my singular affection for you.

Clouds disperse: the rain at Guantan,¹

4 spring is green: the fields of Pengze.²

Often I am amazed that you have come to such a small domain,
and I intend to ask high Heaven about it.

After parting, on the roads of eastern Ba

8 I will ask those I meet how many are as worthy as you.

12.2

Respectfully Seeing Off the Elder Cui of the Directorate of Waterways down the Gorges

There are countless rafts on the River Fu,
their oars resound as they all set off.

Our parting will not last in the long run,

4 for I can't bear to neglect my relatives.³

White Dog and Yellow Ox Gorges,
the shrine for dawn clouds and evening rain.⁴

1 Jiang Taigong was magistrate at Guantan, and King Wen of Zhou dreamed that he saw a girl who was weeping on the road. She explained that she was the daughter of the god of the Taishan to be married to the god of the Western Sea. She complained that she could not pass through Guantan County, because, wherever she passed, she caused a great storm; however, the magistrate of Guantan's virtue was such that she could not make a storm over his county. Indeed, King Wen observed that the clouds avoided Guantan. The suggestion here seems to be that it does rain, but that the clouds disperse before it becomes harmful.

2 Where *Tao Qian was magistrate.

3 That is, Du Fu plans to return to Chang'an or Luoyang and will see Cui again there, claiming Cui as kin on his mother's side.

4 These are sites in the Three Gorges. The shrine was dedicated to the goddess of Wu Mountain.

所過憑問訊，
8 到日自題詩。

12.3

鄴城西原送李判官兄武判官弟赴成都府

憑高送所親，
久坐惜芳辰。
遠水非無浪，
4 他山自有春。
野花隨處發，
官柳著行新。
天際傷愁別，
8 離筵何太頻。

12.4

涪江泛舟送韋班歸京(得山字)

追餞同舟日，
傷春一水間。
飄零為客久，
4 衰老羨君還。
花遠重重樹，
雲輕處處山。

- Wherever you pass, I trust you to convey my respects,
 8 when I get there myself, I will write poems.

12.3

On the Plain West of Qi City, Seeing Off My Senior, Administrative Assistant Li and My Junior, Administrative Assistant Wu on their Way to Chengdu

- On a high place I see off those dear to me,
 we sit long, treasuring this time of fragrance.
 Distant waters will not lack waves,
 4 but other mountains will have spring too.
 Wildflowers will bloom wherever you go,
 the public willows will be fresh all along the way.
 At world's end I am grieved at these sad goodbyes,
 8 so frequent are these departure banquets.

12.4

Sailing on the Fu River, I See Off Wei Ban on His Return to the Capital (I got the rhyme *shan*)

- A day sharing a boat, going with you to a parting banquet,
 pained by spring on the whole river.
 Tossed along, long a wayfarer,
 4 wasting away in old age, I envy your return.
 Flowers afar, layers and layers of trees,
 the clouds light, mountains everywhere.

- 天涯故人少，
8 更益鬢毛斑。

12.5

泛江送魏十八倉曹還京因寄岑中允參范郎
中季明

- 遲日深江水，
輕舟送別筵。
帝鄉愁緒外，
4 春色淚痕邊。
見酒須相憶，
將詩莫浪傳。
若逢岑與范，
8 為報各衰年。

12.6

送路六侍御入朝

- 童稚情親四十年，
中間消息兩茫然。
更為後會知何地，
4 忽漫相逢是別筵。

- Old friends are few at sky's very edge,
 8 my tresses grow even more streaked with white.

12.5

On the River, Seeing Off Wei (18) of the Granaries Section on His
 Return to the Capital; by Him I Send This to Cen Shen, Companion
 of the Heir Apparent, and to Director Fan Jiming

- Lengthening days, deep river waters,
 a light boat, the banquet of parting.
 The emperor's land lies beyond these sad feelings,
 4 spring's colors beside tracks of my tears
 When you see ale, you must think back on me,
 take my poems, but don't pass them around recklessly.
 If you meet up with Cen and Fan,
 8 tell them for me that we're each getting old.

12.6

Seeing Off Attendant Censor Lu (6) on His Way to Court

- Our feelings of childhood friendship have lasted for forty years,
 but in that time both of us have been at a loss for news of the other.
 I wonder where once again we will have a future meeting;
 4 this sudden unforeseen encounter is at a parting feast.

不分桃花紅勝錦，
生憎柳絮白於綿。
劍南春色還無賴，
8 觸忤愁人到酒邊。

12.7

涪城縣香積寺官閣

寺下春江深不流，
山腰官閣迴添愁。
含風翠壁孤雲細，
4 背日丹楓萬木稠。
小院迴廊春寂寂，
浴鳧飛鷺晚悠悠。
諸天合在藤蘿外，
8 昏黑應須到上頭。

12.8

泛江送客

二月頻送客，
東津江欲平。
煙花山際重，
4 舟楫浪前輕。

I did not expect the peach blossoms to be redder than brocade,
I can't stand that willow floss is whiter than cotton fluff.

The beauty of spring in Jiannan is once again ne'er-do-well,
8 causing offense to sad men by coming beside our ale.

12.7

The Officials' Pavilion at the Temple of Massed Incense in Fucheng County

Below the temple the springtime River is so deep it does not flow,
an officials' pavilion at the mountain's middle high up adds to my
melancholy.

The azure cliff catches the breeze, a lone cloud thin,
4 red maples, their backs to the sun, ten thousand trees dense.
In the small courtyard with winding porch, spring is lonely and still,
bathing ducks and flying egrets in evening are at ease.
All the devas surely must lie beyond the rattan and vines,¹
8 in the black of night I will surely reach the very top.

12.8

Seeing a Traveler Off on the River

In the second month I have seen travelers off frequently,
at East Ford the river is becoming calmer.
Flowers in mist, heavy at mountain's edge,
4 oars of boats, light before the waves.

1 This is a Buddhist term for the various Buddhist heavens.

淚逐勸杯下，
愁連吹笛生。
離筵不隔日，
8 那得易為情。

12.9

雙燕

旅食驚雙燕，
銜泥入此堂。
應同避燥濕，
4 且復過炎涼。
養子風塵際，
來時道路長。
今秋天地在，
8 吾亦離殊方。

12.10

百舌

百舌來何處，
重重祇報春。
知音兼眾語，
4 整翮豈多身。

Tears fall with toasts offered,
 sadness comes, linked to a flute being played.
 Not a day goes by without a parting banquet,
 8 how can I easily keep my spirits up?

12.9

A Pair of Swallows

Lodging on my journey I was startled by a pair of swallows,
 mud in beaks, entering this hall.
 They must be fleeing the world's vicissitudes like me,
 4 and also passing through situations too hot and too cold.¹
 They raise their young in the windblown dust,
 the road was long to come here.
 This autumn heaven and earth will remain,
 8 and I too will leave this strange land.

12.10

The Shrike²

From where does the shrike come
 to just announce spring over and over again?
 It knows all the sounds and can make them all,
 4 preening its wings, how can it have many bodies?

1 "Vicissitudes" is literally "dryness and damp." The swallows' movements in relation to literal weather are parallel to Du Fu's travels due to the figurative "weather" in the human realm.

2 Literally the "hundred tongues," for its supposed ability to make the calls of different birds.

花密藏難見，
枝高聽轉新。
過時如發口，
8 君側有讒人。

12.11

上牛頭寺

青山意不盡，
袞袞上牛頭。
無復能拘礙，
4 真成浪出遊。
花濃春寺靜，
竹細野池幽。
何處鶯啼切，
8 移時獨未休。

12.12

望牛頭寺

牛頭見鶴林，
梯徑繞幽深。
春色浮山外，
4 天河宿殿陰。

Where flowers are dense, it hides, hard to see,
 if branches are high, it gets increasingly fresh to the ear.
 But if it sings out when the season is past,¹

8 there are slanderers by the ruler's side.

12.11

Climbing to Oxhead Temple

My interest in green mountains never ends,
 I climb sinuously up Oxhead.
 No more can I be hampered and hindered,
 4 I have truly achieved an unbridled excursion.
 The flowers are richly colored, the spring temple serene,
 the bamboo thin, the wilderness pool secluded.
 Why is the oriole crying so piercingly?—

8 as time passes it alone does not cease.

12.12

Gazing at Oxhead Temple

I see a Crane Grove at Oxhead,²
 the stepped path circles into deep, secluded spots.
 Spring's colors float beyond the mountain,
 4 the Milky Way spends the night in the great hall's shadow.

1 The shrike is supposed to stop singing with the onset of summer, and could be a sign of the ruler being led astray by flatterers.

2 When Buddha attained enlightenment the pair of sala trees underwhich he sat turned white, resembling cranes.

傳燈無白日，
布地有黃金。
休作狂歌老，
8 迴看不住心。

12.13

登牛頭山亭子

路出雙林外，
亭窺萬井中。
江城孤照日，
4 山谷遠含風。
兵革身將老，
關河信不通。
猶殘數行淚，
8 忍對百花叢。

12.14

上兜率寺

兜率知名寺，
真如會法堂。
江山有巴蜀，
4 棟宇自齊梁。

They transmit the lamp without regard for the daylight,¹
 spread out on the ground is yellow gold.²

Cease to be a wildly singing old man,

8 turn to look on the non-abiding mind.³

12.13

Climbing To the Pavilion on Oxhead Mountain

The road goes out beyond the sala trees,⁴
 from the pavilion one peers over thousands of villages.

The city on the river shines alone in the sun,

4 mountain valleys, filled with wind far away.

The clash of arms, this body getting old,
 letters do not get through the passes and rivers.

There still remain several streams of tears,

8 can I bear to face the clumps of all the flowers?

12.14

Climbing to Doushuai Temple⁵

Doushuai, a temple whose fame is known,

Universal Truth is comprehended in the Dharma Hall.

The mountains and rivers include Ba and Shu,

4 the beams and roofs date from the Qi and Liang.

1 These are the lamps constantly burning before the Buddha's image as well as the transmission of the Dharma, which is also "transmitting the lamp."

2 Jetavana Park, where gold was spread.

3 A Buddhist term for the mind free of attachments.

4 A Buddhist temple.

5 Doushuai is the fourth of the Buddhist heavens with the "pure land" of Maitreya.

庾信哀雖久，
周顒好不忘。
白牛車遠近，
8 且欲上慈航。

12.15

望兜率寺

樹密當山徑，
江深隔寺門。
霏霏雲氣重，
4 閃閃浪花翻。
不復知天大，
空餘見佛尊。
時應清盥罷，
8 隨喜給孤園。

12.16

甘園

春日清江岸，
千甘二頃園。
青雲羞葉密，
4 白雪避花繁。

Though Yu Xin has lamented a long time,¹
 as Zhou Yong I love it without forgetting,²
 How far away is the white ox cart?—³

8 I want to get on the boat of compassion.⁴

12.15

Gazing at Doushuai Temple

The trees are dense, blocking the mountain path,
 the river is deep outside the temple gate.
 Cloud vapors heavy, thickly drifting,
 4 flashing sparkles roll with the waves.
 I no longer recognize Heaven as large,
 nothing remains but seeing how exalted Buddha is.
 Sometime I should just wash my hands,
 8 and emulate the joys in Jetavana Park.⁵

12.16

Mandarin Orange Park

A spring day on the shore of the clear river,
 a two-acre grove with a thousand orange trees.
 Such thickness of leaves makes green clouds embarrassed,
 4 such profusion of flowers makes the white snow yield.

1 *Yu Xin.

2 Zhou Yong was a Qi dynasty devotee of Buddhism.

3 This refers to the parable of the burning house and the three carts at the gate. The cart with the ox represents Mahayana Buddhism, while the white ox cart transcends doctrinal distinctions.

4 This is the boat that carries all sentient beings across the sea of suffering.

5 “Emulate the joys,” *sui xi* 隨喜, is a Buddhist term referring to the delight in observing the good actions of others.

結子隨邊使，
開筒近至尊。
後於桃李熟，
8 終得獻金門。

12.17

陪李梓州王閬州蘇遂州李果州四使君登惠
義寺

春日無人境，
虛空不住天。
鶯花隨世界，
4 樓閣寄山巔。
遲暮身何得，
登臨意惘然。
誰能解金印，
8 瀟灑共安禪。

The fruit forms and goes with the frontier envoy,¹
 the tubes opened, they are brought to His Majesty.
 Ripening after the peach and plum,

8 eventually they get to be presented to the golden gates.

12.17

Climbing to Huiyi Temple in the Company of Four Governors, Li of
 Zizhou, Wang of Langzhou, Su of Suizhou, and Li of Guozhou

A spring day in a realm without men,
 the void, a heaven of non-abiding.
 Orioles and flowers accord with this realm of the senses,
 4 halls and towers are lodged on the mountain's summit.
 In life's twilight what has this body attained?—
 climbing and looking out, thoughts lost in brooding.
 Who can take off those golden seals²

8 and with untroubled ease join in meditation?

1 Mandarin oranges were sent to court as tribute from Zizhou.

2 The seals of office of the four governors.

12.18-19

數陪李梓州泛江有女樂在諸舫戲為豔曲
二首贈李

I

上客迴空騎，
佳人滿近船。
江清歌扇底，
4 野曠舞衣前。
玉袖凌風並，
金壺隱浪偏。
競將明媚色，
8 偷眼豔陽天。

II

白日移歌袖，
青霄近笛床。
翠眉縈度曲，
4 雲鬢儼分行。
立馬千山暮，
迴舟一水香。
使君自有婦，
8 莫學野鴛鴦。

12.18–19

Often Accompanying Li of Zizhou Sailing on the River with Girl
Musicians in All the Boats, I Playfully Compose Two Erotic Songs
to Give to Li

I

The honored guest sends his mount back without him,
fair women fill the nearby boats.

- The river is clear below the singers' fans,
4 the wilds stretch broad before the dancing robes.
Jade sleeves move together over the wind,
golden jugs tilt, leaning on waves.
They compete with their bright beguiling beauty
8 to steal glances away from the gorgeous weather.

II

The bright sun moves past the singers' sleeves,
the high green wisps are approached by the flutes.

- Dark brows make songs with a lilting trill,
4 cloudlike tresses divide strictly in lines.
He stops his horse, a thousand mountains in twilight,
the boats return, the whole river is fragrant.
The prefect has his own wife—
8 don't imitate the wild mandarin ducks.¹

1 That is, don't sleep with these lovely singers.

12.20

送何侍御歸朝(李梓州泛舟筵上作)

舟楫諸侯餞，
車輿使者歸。
山花相映發，
4 水鳥自孤飛。
春日垂霜鬢，
天隅把繡衣。
故人從此去，
8 寥落寸心違。

12.21

江亭送眉州辛別駕升之(得蕪字)

柳影含雲幕，
江波近酒壺。
異方驚會面，
4 終宴惜征途。
沙晚低風蝶，
天晴喜浴鳬。
別離傷老大，
8 意緒日荒蕪。

12.20

Seeing Off Vice Censor in chief He on His Return to Court
(Composed at a Banquet Cruise Hosted by Li of Zizhou)

Boat and oars, parting feast by a domain lord,¹
by carriage the man on a mission returns.
Mountain flowers bloom, setting each other off,

4 a water-bird flies off alone.

On a spring day my frosty tresses hang,
at a corner of the world I clasp the brocade robe.²
From this point my old friend leaves,

8 all is still and dreary, heart's wish gone wrong.

12.21

At a River Pavilion Seeing Off Assistant Prefect Xin Shengzhi
of Meizhou (I got the rhyme *wu*)

Shadows of willows enclose the cloud-like tent,
river waves draw near the ale jugs.
I was surprised to meet you in this strange place,
4 all through the party I regretted your journey.
It grows late on the sand, butterflies low in the breeze,
the sky clear, ducks delight to bathe.

Parting wounds an old person like me,
8 my moments of thought grow daily more tangled.

1 "Domain lord" was an anachronistic way to refer to the prefect Li.

2 Of Censor He.

12.22

行次鹽亭縣聊題四韻奉簡嚴遂州蓬州兩使
君諮議諸昆季

馬首見鹽亭，
高山擁縣青。
雲溪花淡淡，
4 春郭水泠泠。
全蜀多名士，
嚴家聚德星。
長歌意無極，
8 好為老夫聽。

12.23

倚杖(鹽亭縣作)

看花雖郭內，
倚杖即溪邊。
山縣早休市，
4 江橋春聚船。
狎鷗輕白浪，
歸雁喜青天。
物色兼生意，
8 淒涼憶去年。

12.22

I Come to Yanting County on My Travels and Chance to Write Four
Couplets, Respectfully Sent to the Brothers Yan, Prefects of Suizhou
and Pengzhou and the Adviser

Ahead of my horse I see Yanting,
high mountains green, crowding around the county.

Cloudy creek, the flowers pale,

4 town in spring, waters gurgling.

Many famous gentlemen in Shu,

the Yan family is a cluster of stars of virtue.

I sing long, my mood without limit,

8 be so good as to listen to this old man.

12.23

Leaning on My Cane (Composed at Yanting)

Though I looked at flowers inside the town,

I lean on my cane coming here to the creek.

A mountain county, the market breaks up early,

4 river bridge where boats cluster in spring.

Familiar gulls think nothing of white waves,

migrating geese delight in blue skies.

The look of things everywhere has a vitality,

8 brooding sadly, I think back on last year.¹

1 The rebellion in Chengdu.

12.24

惠義寺送王少尹赴成都(得峰字)

苒苒谷中寺，
娟娟林表峰。
闌干上處遠，
4 結構坐來重。
騎馬行春徑，
衣冠起暮鐘。
雲門青寂寂，
8 此別惜相從。

12.25

惠義寺園送辛員外

朱櫻此日垂朱實，
郭外誰家負郭田。
萬里相逢貪握手，
高才仰望足離筵。

12.24

At Huiyi Temple Seeing Off Assistant Magistrate Wang on His Way to
Chengdu (I got the rhyme *feng*)

Lush growth, a temple in the valley,
charming, the peak beyond the woods.

The railing leads far off above,

4 the structure has always been in layers.

We ride our horses along the spring path,

caps and gowns rise at the twilight bell.

This gate in the clouds is green and still,

8 I regret I cannot go with you at this parting.

12.25

Seeing Off Supernumerary Xin at the Garden of Huiyi Temple

This day the red cherries let their red fruits hang,

outside the town whose fields are these backing the town walls?

I met you ten thousand leagues from home, I avidly clasp your hand,

looking up to your lofty talent as enough for such a parting banquet.

12.26

又送

雙峰寂寂對春臺，
 萬竹青青照客杯。
 細草留連侵坐軟，
 4 殘花悵望近人開。
 同舟昨日何由得，
 並馬今朝未擬迴。
 直到綿州始分首，
 8 江邊樹裏共誰來。

12.27-28

巴西驛亭觀江漲呈竇十五使君二首

I

宿雨南江漲，
 波濤亂遠峰。
 孤亭凌噴薄，
 4 萬井逼春容。
 霄漢愁高鳥，
 泥沙困老龍。

12.26

Another on Parting

A pair of peaks quiet and still face the spring terrace,
 ten thousand bamboo so green reflect in the cups of guests.
 Fine grasses make us linger, soft coming in among our seats,

4 we gaze sadly on the remaining flowers blossoming near us.

I had no way to share a boat a few days ago,
 this morning our horses go side by side, I do not intend to turn back.

I'll go all the way to Mianzhou, then we will part,

8 among the trees by the river who will come back with me?

12.27–28

Watching the River Flood at the Pavilion at Baxi Post Station, Presented
 to Prefect Dou (15)

I

From last night's rain the south river flooded,
 the huge waves are confused with distant peaks.

This lone pavilion rises over its churning,

4 ten thousand homes are pressed by its crashing.

It worries high birds in the upper clouds,
 distresses old dragons in mud and sand.

天邊同客舍，
8 攜我豁心胸。

II

轉驚波作怒，
即恐岸隨流。
賴有杯中物，
4 還同海上鷗。
關心小荊縣，
傍眼見揚州。
為接情人飲，
8 朝來減片愁。

12.29

又呈竇使君

向晚波微綠，
連空岸卻青。
日兼春有暮，
4 愁與醉無醒。
漂泊猶杯酒，
躊躕此驛亭。
相看萬里外，
8 同是一浮萍。

- He who shares this guest lodge at the earth's end
 8 holds my hand, easing my breast.

II

- I'm increasingly alarmed that the waves will rage,
 I fear that at once the shore will be swept away.
 But I have that thing in the cup to rely on¹
 4 and feel again the same as a gull on the sea.
 I am concerned, thinking Shan County small,
 before my own eyes I saw Yangzhou.²
 Having met someone I care about to drink with,
 8 by dawn half of my sorrows are diminished.

12.29

Another to Prefect Dou

- Toward evening the waves turned faintly green,
 stretching to the sky the shore became bluish again.
 The day and spring both have their ends,
 4 but I never sober from sorrow and drink.
 Swept along, still with a cup of ale,
 lingering here at this station pavilion.
 We look toward each other more than ten thousand leagues from home,
 8 we are both of us duckweeds adrift.

1 Ale.

2 Both are places in eastern China that he visited in his youth.

12.30

陪王漢州留杜綿州泛房公西湖

舊相思追後，
春池賞不稀。
闕庭分未到，
4 舟楫有光輝。
豉化蓴絲熟，
刀鳴鱠縷飛。
使君雙皂蓋，
8 灘淺正相依。

12.31

得房公池鵝

房相西亭鵝一群，
眠沙泛浦白於雲。
鳳凰池上應回首，
為報籠隨王右軍。

12.30

Accompanying Wang of Hanzhou, Detaining Du of Mianzhou to Go
Boating on Lord Fang's Pool¹

After imperial grace recalled the former minister,
this spring pool has been enjoyed not rarely.

He was fated never to reach the palace towers,

4 but in this boat there is a glow.²

The soybeans have fermented, the water-shield filaments are ripe,
the knife resounds, sashimi slices fly.

Prefects, a pair of black carriage awnings,

8 join together where the rapids are shallow.

12.31

On Getting a Goose from Lord Fang's Pool

In Minister Fang's western pavilion a flock of geese,
sleeping on the sands, floating by the shore, whiter than clouds.

The one by Phoenix Pool has surely turned his head,
tell him you go in a cage along with Wang Xizhi.³

1 This was the pool dredged by Fang Guan when prefect of Hanzhou.

2 From the presence of prefects Wang and Du.

3 This refers to the story of the famous calligrapher Wang Xizhi, who traded a copy of the *Daode jing* written in his own hand for a goose. Phoenix Pool is the Secretariat. *Du Yi* takes the one who turned the head as Fang Guan, though it may well have been the goose itself, looking for his master, who was in the Secretariat. Since Du Fu claims to have "gotten" one, he must be the one who takes the goose away in return for a poem.

12.32

答楊梓州

悶到房公池水頭，
坐逢楊子鎮東州。
卻向青溪不相見，
迴船應載阿戎遊。

12.33

舟前小鵝兒

鵝兒黃似酒，
對酒愛新鵝。
引頸嗔船逼，
4 無行亂眼多。
翅開遭宿雨，
力小困滄波。
客散層城暮，
8 狐狸奈若何。

12.32

Answering Yang of Zizhou

I was feeling down when I came to Lord Fang's pool,
 but just then I met Master Yang who guards the prefecture to the east.
 When I went back to the green creek, I didn't see you,
 when you bring back your boat, you should bring your clever boy
 along.¹

12.33

Little Goslings in Front of My Boat²

Goslings as yellow as the ale,
 facing my ale, I adore the new goslings.
 They stretch their necks, scolding the boat's too close approach,
 4 not forming any line, they confuse the eyes by their numbers.
 Wings spread, having met rain overnight,
 weak in strength, they have trouble in the green waves.
 Visitors scatter, evening comes to the walls,
 8 what will happen to you should you meet foxes?

1 "Clever boy" is literally Arong, the childhood name of Wang Rong, famous for his good sense as a boy. This is a complimentary way to refer to someone else's son.

2 Original note: "Composed at the official pool in the northwest corner of Hanzhou"
 漢州城西北角官池作。

12.34-35

官池春雁二首

I

自古稻梁多不足，
至今鷓鴣亂為群。
且休悵望看春水，
更恐歸飛隔暮雲。

II

青春欲盡急還鄉，
紫塞寧論尚有霜。
翅在雲天終不遠，
力微矰繳絕須防。

12.36

投簡梓州幕府兼簡韋十郎官

幕下郎官安穩無，
從來不奉一行書。
固知貧病人須棄，
能使韋郎跡也疏。

12.34–35

Spring Geese in the Office Pool

I

Since ancient days the rice and grain have usually not been enough,
 even now you have to flock indiscriminately with tufted ducks.
 Stop gazing so sadly awhile, looking on springtime waters,
 then I fear that, flying back, you'll be cut off by twilight clouds.

II

Green spring is almost over, you return urgently to your home,
 how can it matter that Purple Pass still has frost?
 Once your wings are in the skies in the end it is not far,
 when your strength weakens you really must guard against stringed
 arrows.

12.36

Sent as a Note to the Zizhou Headquarters and to Director Wei (10)

Are the gentlemen in the headquarters doing well or not?—
 so far I have not received a letter of even a single line.
 I know quite well that people reject those sick and old,
 it was able to cause Director Wei to also keep his distance.

12.37

See notes

12.38

短歌行送祁錄事歸合州因寄蘇使君

前者途中一相見，
人事經年記君面。
後生相勸何寂寥，
4 君有長才不貧賤。
君今起柁春江流，
余亦沙邊具小舟。
幸為達書賢府主，
8 江花未盡會江樓。

12.39

送韋郎司直歸成都

竄身來蜀地，
同病得韋郎。
天下干戈滿，
4 江邊歲月長。
別筵花欲暮，
春日鬢俱蒼。

12.37

See notes

12.38

Short Song, Seeing Off Office Manager Qi on His Return to Hezhou,
by Him I Send This to Prefect Su

Earlier on the road I met you once,
after years of things happening I still recall your face.
I encourage you, younger man—why be so gloomy?—

- 4 you have great talent, you won't be poor and humble.
Now you launch your rudder into the spring river's current,
I too by the sands prepare my little boat.
Would you be so good as to carry this to your worthy prefect,
8 before the river flowers are gone I will meet him in a tower by the river.

In Zizhou Du Fu was planning to go down the Fu River to the Yangzi. Hezhou was one of the prefectures he would have to pass through. Here he seems to have made plans to set out before the end of spring. Yet at the same time he was thinking about returning to his thatched cottage in Chengdu.

12.39

Seeing Off Rectifier Wei on His Return to Chengdu

I came to the land of Shu to hide out,
and found Master Wei who shares the same trouble.
The world is filled with the clash of arms,
4 years and months grow long by the riverside.
At the parting feast the flowers are almost ending,
a spring day, both our tresses are graying.

為問南溪竹，
8 抽梢合過牆。

12.40

寄題江外草堂

我生性放誕，
雅欲逃自然。
嗜酒愛風竹，
4 卜居必林泉。
遭亂到蜀江，
臥病遣所便。
誅茅初一畝，
8 廣地方連延。
經營上元始，
斷手寶應年。
敢謀土木麗，
12 自覺面勢堅。
臺亭隨高下，
敞豁當清川。
雖有會心侶，
16 數能同釣船。
干戈未偃息，
安得酣歌眠。

- Find out for me about the bamboo at southern creek,
 8 their sprouting tips must have risen over my wall.¹

12.40

Sent to Be Written on My Thatched Cottage beyond the River²

- All my life I've been unrestrained,
 I've always wanted to flee into the natural way.
 I crave ale, love windblown bamboo,
 4 I always site my dwelling with woods and streams.
 Meeting war, I came to the rivers of Shu,
 bedridden, I found release by what suited me.
 I began with one acre to build my cottage,
 8 then extended it to a broader plot.
 I set to work at the start of the Shangyuan Reign,³
 I finished in the Baoying Reign.⁴
 Dared I plan for beauty of earth and wood?—
 12 yet I feel that it looks quite sturdy.
 Terrace and pavilion follow the high and low places,
 wide open, it faces the clear river.
 Although there are companions who know my heart,
 16 can they often share my fishing boat?
 The clash of arms has not been put to rest,
 how can one get to sing tipsily and sleep?

1 Original note: "My thatched cottage is in the western suburbs of Chengdu" 余草堂在成都西郭。

2 Original note: "Composed in Zizhou and sent to my dwelling in Chengdu" 梓州作寄成都故居。

3 760.

4 762.

- 蛟龍無定窟，
20 黃鵠摩蒼天。
古來達士志，
寧受外物牽。
顧惟魯鈍姿，
24 豈識悔吝先。
偶攜老妻去，
慘澹凌風煙。
事跡無固必，
28 幽貞愧雙全。
尚念四小松，
蔓草易拘纏。
霜骨不甚長，
32 永為鄰里憐。

12.41

陪章留後侍御宴南樓(得風字)

- 絕域長夏晚，
茲樓清宴同。
朝廷燒棧北，
4 鼓角漏天東。
屢食將軍第，
仍騎御史驄。

- Dragons have no fixed lair,
 20 the yellow swan rubs the gray heavens.
 Have the aims of perfected men since ancient times,
 ever accepted the pull of outer things?
 I think on my blunt and clumsy manner,
 24 did I ever recognize the harbingers of my ruin?
 Just then I took my wife in hand and left,
 crossing through the gloom of windblown smoke.
 In what I did here was nothing absolutely necessary,¹
 28 in purity and keeping secluded, I'm ashamed at failing in both.
 I still think on my four little pines,
 wild vines will easily strangle them.
 Their frosty bones won't grow very tall,
 32 they will always be pitied by my neighbors.

12.41

Accompanying Vice Censor in chief Zhang, Capital Liaison Representative, at a Feast in the Southern Tower (I got the rhyme *feng*)

- A region remote, long summer days grow late,
 here in this tower we join in a clear feast.
 The court lies north of the burned plankways,²
 4 drums and bugles are east of the "Leaky Heavens."³
 Often have I dined at the general's mansion,
 and still ride the Censor's dappled gray.

1 Apparently referring to leaving Chengdu for the nearby prefectures, Mianzhou and Zizhou.

2 In 761 Nuci and Tangut raiders attacked Baoji and burned Dasan Barrier.

3 An alternate name for Qiongzhusi, so called because of the frequent rain.

- 本無丹竈術，
8 那免白頭翁。
寇盜狂歌外，
形骸痛飲中。
野雲低渡水，
12 簷雨細隨風。
出號江城黑，
題詩蠟炬紅。
此身醒復醉，
16 不擬哭途窮。

12.42

臺上(得涼字)

- 改席臺能迴，
留門月復光。
雲霄遺暑濕，
4 山谷進風涼。
老去一杯足，
誰憐屢舞長。
何須把官燭，
8 似惱鬢毛蒼。

- Never having had the arts of the cinnabar stove,¹
 8 how can I avoid becoming a white-haired old man?
 Bandits and marauders lie beyond my mad singing,
 my physical form is drinking itself sick.
 Wilderness clouds are low crossing the water,
 12 rain on the eaves is fine, following the wind.
 Orders are called out, the river city grows black,
 we write poems in the red of wax torches.
 This body of mine will grow sober, then get drunk again,
 16 I do not intend to weep at road's end.²

12.42

On the Terrace (I got the rhyme *liang*)

- We moved the party, the terrace could keep us remote;
 the gate was left unbarred, and the moon again gave light.
 Among high clouds we left muggy heat behind,
 4 the mountain valley brought the cool of a breeze.
 Getting old, one cup is enough,
 who loves frequently dancing long?
 Why need take in hand candles from government stock?—³
 8 they seem to upset me by showing gray strands of hair.

1 For making elixir of immortality.

2 *Ruan Ji.

3 Taking candles in hand refers to extending merrymaking into the dark of night.

12.43

送王十五判官扶侍還黔中(得開字)

- 大家東征逐子回，
風生洲渚錦帆開。
青青竹筍迎船出，
4 日日江魚入饌來。
離別不堪無限意，
艱危深仗濟時才。
黔陽信使應稀少，
8 莫怪頻頻勸酒杯。

12.44

喜雨

- 春旱天地昏，
日色赤如血。
農事都已休，
4 兵戎況騷屑。
巴人困軍須，
慟哭厚土熱。
滄江夜來雨，
8 真宰罪一雪。

12.43

Seeing Off Administrative Assistant Wang (15), Who Is Accompanying
His Mother on Her Return to Qian (I got the rhyme *kai*)

The grand lady journeyed east, and now goes back with her son,¹
when the wind rises over the isle, the brocade sail is unfurled.

Green, green the shoots of bamboo come forth to welcome the boat,

4 day after day river fish will come into your repast.

At parting I cannot bear the limitless sentiment,

in hardship and peril we deeply rely on your talent to save the age.

Trustworthy messengers from Qianyang will surely be very few,

8 marvel not that so often we urge cups of ale on you.

12.44

Delighting in the Rain

Spring drought, Heaven and Earth are dusky,
the sun's color is as red as blood.

All farming work has stopped,

4 even more with the turmoil of war.

Ba folk are hard pressed by army demands,
they weep and wail at the heat of deep earth.

Last night came rain on the gray river—

8 the faults of the One in Charge are all forgiven.²

1 This echoes Ban Zhao, who married a Cao, who became “Grand Lady Cao.” She was famous for her “*Fu* on the Eastward Journey,” accompanying her son.

2 That is, Heaven.

- 穀根小蘇息，
 沴氣終不滅。
 何由見寧歲，
 12 解我憂思結。
 崢嶸群山雲，
 交會未斷絕。
 安得鞭雷公，
 16 滂沱洗吳越。

12.45-47

述古三首

I

- 赤驥頓長纓，
 非無萬里姿。
 悲鳴淚至地，
 4 為問馭者誰。
 鳳凰從天來，
 何意復高飛。
 竹花不結實，
 8 念子忍朝饑。
 古來君臣合，
 可以物理推。

- The roots of the grain are slightly revived,
 but demonic vapors have never dissipated.
 How can I see a year of peace,
 12 relieving the anxious thoughts that come to me?
 Clouds loom over all the mountains,
 their conjunction never ceases.
 How can I flog the Thunder Lord
 16 to wash Wu and Yue in streaming rain?¹

12.45–47

Accounts of Ancient Times

I

- When Russet Charger struggled with long reins,²
 it was not that he lacked the quality to go ten thousand leagues.
 He neighed sadly and tears reached the ground,
 4 I wonder who the driver was.
 When the phoenix came from Heaven,
 why did he fly off again on high?
 The bamboo blossoms formed no fruit,³
 8 I think on how you endure dawn hunger.
 Since ancient times concord of ruler and minister,
 can be inferred from the principle in these things.

1 Note: "At the time I heard that there were many bandits in Zheyong" 時聞浙右多盜賊. This was the rebellion by Yuan Chao.

2 Russet Charger was the name of one of the legendary horses of King Mu of Zhou.

3 Phoenixes are supposed to eat only the fruit of the bamboo.

賢人識定分，
12 進退固其宜。

II

市人日中集，
於利競錐刀。
置膏烈火上，
4 哀哀自煎熬。
農人望歲稔，
相率除蓬蒿。
所務穀為本，
8 邪贏無乃勞。
舜舉十六相，
身尊道何高。
秦時任商鞅，
12 法令如牛毛。

III

漢光得天下，
祚永固有開。
豈惟高祖聖，
4 功自蕭曹來。
經綸中興業，
何代無長才。

- The worthy man recognizes fixed fate,
 12 he is sure when it is right to advance or withdraw.

II

- Men of the market gather in daytime,
 they struggle over the tiniest point of profit.
 When you place oil on a blazing fire,
 4 it cries mournfully as it burns itself up.
 Farmers look ahead to the harvest,
 they follow each other getting rid of weeds.
 Grain is the basis of our efforts,
 8 devious gains are nothing but trouble.
 Shun put sixteen ministers in office,
 his person was exalted and how lofty was his Way.
 In Qin times they employed Shang Yang,¹
 12 there were as many laws as hairs on an ox.

III

- Han Guangwudi got the world,
 fortune lasted long indeed because there were good beginnings.²
 This was not only the sage wisdom of Gaozu,
 4 achievement came from Xiao and Cao.³
 In managing the legacy of the Restoration,
 what reign lacked superior talents?

1 The Qin minister who instituted Legalist policies.

2 That is securing Emperor Guangwu's revival of the Han dynasty, the period known as the Eastern Han. The "good beginnings" apparently refers to the beginning of the Western Han.

3 The first Han Emperor Gaozu's two ministers Xiao He and Cao Shen.

吾慕寇鄧勳，
8 濟時信良哉。
耿賈亦宗臣，
羽翼共徘徊。
休運終四百，
12 圖畫在雲臺。

12.48

陪章留後惠義寺餞嘉州崔都督赴州

中軍待上客，
令肅事有恆。
前驅入寶地，
4 祖帳飄金繩。
南陌既留歡，
茲山亦深登。
清聞樹杪磬，
8 遠謁雲端僧。
迴策匪新岸，
所攀仍舊藤。
耳激洞門飆，
12 目存寒谷冰。
出塵闕軌躅，
畢景遺炎蒸。

- I admire the merits of Kou and Deng,¹
 8 in aiding the times they were truly good!
 Geng and Jia were also officers honored thereafter,²
 as supporters, both lingered on with him.³
 Bounteous fate lasted four centuries,
 12 and their portraits were on Cloud Terrace.

12.48

Accompanying Deputy Zhang Holding a Parting Banquet in Huiyi
 Temple for Commander Cui of Jiazhou as He Sets Out for His
 Prefecture

- When the central command entertains a high-ranking guest,
 orders are strict, matters are handled by the norms.
 The outriders enter the jeweled land,⁴
 4 by the parting tent flutter golden cords.⁵
 Having lingered in merriment on the southern lanes,
 we also climb deep into this mountain.
 We hear clearly the chimes in the treetops,
 8 and, going far, pay respects to monks at clouds' edge.
 For the turning mounts this is no new slope,
 what we use to climb are the still familiar vines.
 Our ears are stirred by gusts from grotto openings,
 12 our eyes rest on ice from cold valleys.
 Leaving the dust, closed off from carriage ruts,
 we leave behind muggy heat until day's end.

1 Guangwudi's ministers Kou Xun and Deng Yu.

2 Geng Yan and Jia Fu, two of Guangwudi's generals.

3 Apparently implying that they were taking care of matters.

4 The temple precincts.

5 The golden cords figuratively mark the temple's boundaries.

- 永願坐長夏，
16 將衰棲大乘。
羈旅惜宴會，
艱難懷友朋。
勞生共幾何，
20 離恨兼相仍。

12.49

送竇九歸成都

- 文章亦不盡，
竇子才縱橫。
非爾更苦節，
4 何人符大名。
讀書雲閣觀，
問絹錦官城。
我有浣花竹，
8 題詩須一行。

12.50

章梓州水亭

- 城晚通雲霧，
亭深到芰荷。

- I wish to sit through all the long summer days,
 16 getting frail, to find rest in the Greater Vehicle.¹
 Lodging on travels, I treasure parties,
 in hardships I think on friends.
 Burdened with life, how much longer can it last?—
 20 the distress of parting keeps going on as well.

12.49

Seeing Off Dou (9) on His Return to Chengdu

- Your literary writings never end,
 Master Dou's talent moves unopposed.
 Unless continuing in painstaking principles,
 4 who could live up to such great fame?
 You studied in Cloud Tower Lodge,²
 you will ask about open-weave silk in Brocade City.³
 I have bamboo at Washing-Flowers Creek,
 8 all you need to write a poem is take a walk there.

12.50

Zhang of Zizhou's River Pavilion⁴

Late afternoon in the city, clouds and fog reach through,
 the pavilion deep set when we reach lotus and water caltrops.

1 Mahayana dharma.

2 A Daoist establishment.

3 *Sanguo zhi*: Hu Wei went to see his father, who was prefect of Jingzhou. On leaving, his father gave him a bolt of open-weave silk, at which Hu Wei asked how his father came by such silk if he was incorrupt in governing. The father replied that this was from his salary. Dou is going to see his father, who is serving in Chengdu.

4 Note: "At the time the Prince of Hanzhong and the Daoist Xi Qian were at the party; we all used the rhyme *he*" 時漢中王兼道士席謙在會，同用荷字韻。

- 吏人橋外少，
4 秋水席邊多。
近屬淮王至，
高門薊子過。
荊州愛山簡，
8 吾醉亦長歌。

12.51

章梓州橋亭餞成都竇少尹(得涼字)

- 秋日野亭千橘香，
玉杯錦席高雲涼。
主人送客何所作，
4 行酒賦詩殊未央。
衰老應為難離別，
賢聲此去有輝光。
預傳籍籍新京尹，
8 青史無勞數趙張。

12.52

隨章留後新亭會送諸君

新亭有高會，
行子得良時。

- Clerks are few beyond the bridge,
 4 autumn water much by the party mats.
 The king's close kin, Huainan's prince arrives,¹
 to gates of the noble Master Ji comes by.²
 Jingzhou loves Shan Jian,³
 8 when I am drunk, I too sing long.

12.51

At Orange Tree Pavilion Zhang of Zizhou Holds a Parting Banquet for
 Vice-Governor Dou of Chengdu (I got the rhyme *liang*)

- An autumn day, pavilion in the wilds, a thousand orange trees fragrant,
 jade cups and brocade mats, the high clouds cool.
 When our host sends off his guest what does he do?—
 4 serving ale and writing poems are scarcely at an end.
 One frail and aging surely takes parting hard,
 one with fame for worth, after leaving here, will cast a glow.⁴
 Everyone's talking, in advance, about the new capital governor,
 8 the green histories need not take the trouble to count Zhao and
 Zhang.⁵

12.52

Following Deputy Zhang to a Gathering at New Pavilion to Send Off
 Various Gentlemen

At New Pavilion is a grand gathering,
 the travelers have found a favorable time.

1 Liu An, the Prince of Huainan, stands for Li Yu, Prince of Hanzhong.

2 Jizi Xun was an Eastern Han Daoist adept, here referring to Xi Qian.

3 *Shan Jian, here referring to Prefect Zhang.

4 Vice-Governor Dou.

5 Zhao Guanghan and Zhang Chang, two famous metropolitan governors of the Han.

日動映江幕，
4 風鳴排檻旗。
絕葦終不改，
勸酒欲無辭。
已墮峴山淚，
8 因題零雨詩。

12.53

客舊館

陳跡隨人事，
初秋別此亭。
重來梨葉赤，
4 依舊竹林青。
風慢何時卷，
寒砧昨夜聲。
無由出江漢，
8 愁緒日冥冥。

- The sun stirs on tents reflected in the river,
 4 the wind rustles banners, lined up at the railing.
 I will never change in giving up garlic,¹
 but when ale is urged, I won't refuse.
 I have already shed the tears of Mount Xian,²
 8 and thus write a poem on the falling rain.³

12.53

Lodging in an Inn Where I Stayed Before

- My former travels followed practical needs,
 in early autumn I left this pavilion.
 Coming again, the pear leaves are red,
 4 as before the bamboo grove is green.
 When will the wind-blown curtain be rolled up?—
 in the cold fulling blocks resounded last night.
 I have no way to go out to the Yangzi and Han,
 8 sad feelings grow darker day by day.

1 Not just garlic, but scallions, leeks, chives and similar bulb plants that are supposed to be “sour.” These are, like ale, forbidden to monks. Du Fu seems to be claiming a moderately ascetic diet.

2 Yang Hu was a virtuous Jin governor of Xiangyang, who once shed tears thinking of those in the past now gone. Later the citizens of Xiangyang set up a stele in his memory, known as the “stele for shedding tears.”

3 The parting poem, here referring to a poem by the Eastern Jin writer Sun Chu.

12.54-55

戲作寄上漢中王二首

I

雲裏不聞雙雁過，
掌中貪見一珠新。
秋風嫋嫋吹江漢，
只在他鄉何處人。

II

謝安舟楫風還起，
梁苑池臺雪欲飛。
杳杳東山攜漢妓，
泠泠修竹待王歸。

12.56

棕拂子

棕拂且薄陋，
豈知身效能。
不堪代白羽，
4 有足除蒼蠅。

12.54–55

Playful Compositions Sent to the Prince of Hanzhong¹

I

In the clouds I do not hear the paired wild geese passing,²
 I crave to see in your palm that new pearl.
 The autumn wind ruffles, blowing on Yangzi and Han,
 it's just that in a strange land who is really a stranger?

II

On Xie An's boat the wind again rises,³
 at pool and terrace of the Liang park the snow is about to fly.⁴
 At East Mountain faint in the distance, you take singing girls by the
 hand,⁵
 rippling cool, the tall bamboo await the prince's return.

12.56

Palm Whisk

The palm whisk is a humble thing,
 who would guess that it has use?
 It cannot replace white feathers,⁶
 4 but it does well enough to get rid of blueflies.

1 Note: "The Prince had recently had a bright pearl [a son]" 王新誕明珠.

2 Message bearers from the Prince.

3 When *Xie An was at sea in a boat, a storm suddenly blew up. Others in the boat were terrified, but Xie An was characteristically unruffled. The Prince is here compared to Xie An.

4 Referring to Xie Huilian's (407–433) "Snow *Fu*," *Xue fu* 雪賦, set in the garden of the Han Prince of Liang.

5 Like *Xie An when he went out for excursions at his villa on East Mountain.

6 A white feather fan.

熒熒金錯刀，
擢擢朱絲繩。
非獨顏色好，
8 亦用顧盼稱。
吾老抱疾病，
家貧臥炎蒸。
咂膚倦撲滅，
12 賴爾甘服膺。
物微世競棄，
義在誰肯徵。
三歲清秋至，
16 未敢缺緘滕。

12.57

送陵州路使君赴任

王室比多難，
高官皆武臣。
幽燕通使者，
4 岳牧用詞人。
國待賢良急，
君當拔擢新。
佩刀成氣象，
8 行蓋出風塵。

- Sparkling, a golden knife-coin,
 in bright colors, its cord of crimson silk.¹
 Not only does it look good,
 8 it is also praised for its use when looking around.
 In my old age I have serious illnesses,
 my household is poor, I lie in steaming heat.
 When insects bite me, I weary of swatting and killing them,
 12 I rely on your willingness to serve me loyally.
 When something is humble, all the world rejects it,
 but when right remains, who would chastise it?
 For three years when clear autumn comes
 16 I never dare fail to wrap it up and carefully put it away.

12.57

Seeing Off Prefect Lu of Lingzhou Going to His Post

- Recently there have been many troubles for the royal house,
 the high officials are all military officers.
 With emissaries getting through to You and Yan,
 4 for governors and prefects they use literary men.
 The dynasty depends urgently on the worthy and good,
 it is fitting that you have been newly promoted.
 The sword at your waist completes your aura,²
 8 your carriage awning goes forth into windblown dust.

1 The ornaments of the whisk.

2 In the Jin, Lü Qian had a sword that was said to be suitable for someone who was to become one of the Three Lords; Lü Qian gave it to Wang Xiang. The implication is that Prefect Lu will rise to high office.

戰伐乾坤破，
瘡痍府庫貧。
眾僚宜潔白，
12 萬役但平均。
霄漢瞻佳士，
泥途任此身。
秋天正搖落，
16 回首大江濱。

12.58

送元二適江左

亂後今相見，
秋深復遠行。
風塵為客日，
4 江海送君情。
晉室丹陽尹，
公孫白帝城。
經過自愛惜，
8 取次莫論兵。

- Heaven and Earth have been broken by battles,
 from the wounds the district storehouses are poor.
 It is right that your many colleagues be spotless,
 12 in the ten thousand assignments, they should just be fair.
 I will peer at this fine gentleman in heaven's heights,
 I leave this body of mine to the muddy road.
 Autumn skies are now shaking down the leaves,
 16 I turn my head to the great river's shores.

12.58

Seeing Off Yuan (2) on His Way to Jiangzuo

- I meet you now after the rebellion,
 in autumn's depths again you travel afar.
 Dust in the wind, days as a traveler,
 4 river and lakes, my feelings seeing you off.
 The House of Jin, the Danyang governorship,¹
 Gongsun Shu's White Emperor Castle.²
 Take care in those you visit
 8 and don't discuss warfare carelessly.³

1 "Governor," *yin* 尹, was the Jin office governing Danyang; in the Tang Danyang was an ordinary prefecture. This must refer to Yuan's office.

2 White Emperor Castle was the headquarters of the independent ruler Gongsun Shu at the beginning of the Eastern Han. This is Tang Kuizhou, which Yuan would have to pass going from Sichuan to Danyang.

3 Note: "Yuan passed the examination on Sun Wu [a military classic]" 元嘗應孫吳科舉.

12.59

九日

去年登高鄴縣北，
今日重在涪江濱。
苦遭白髮不相放，
4 羞見黃花無數新。
世亂鬱鬱久為客，
路難悠悠常傍人。
酒闌卻憶十年事，
8 腸斷驪山清路塵。

12.60

對雨

莽莽天涯雨，
江邊獨立時。
不愁巴道路，
4 恐濕漢旌旗。
雪嶺防秋急，
繩橋戰勝遲。
西戎甥舅禮，
8 未敢背恩私。

12.59

The Double Ninth

Last year I climbed the heights north of Qi County,
today I find myself again on the shores of the River Fu.

I bitterly encounter white hair, it won't release me

4 embarrassed to see the chrysanthemums countlessly renewed.

Feelings pent up at the age's troubles I have long been a wayfarer,
the roads' hardships go on and on, ever a hanger-on.

The ale done, I think back on what has happened in the past ten years,

8 heart-breaking, to Mount Li they cleared dust from the road.¹

12.60

Facing the Rain

Over a vast expanse, rain on the horizon,
as I stand alone beside the River.

I don't worry about it on Ba's roads,

4 but I fear it will soak the Han banners.

On Snow Ridge, emergency, defending the west,²
victory in battle is slowed by rope bridges.

The Western Rong bear the ceremonial relation of nephew to uncle—³

8 they dare not betray such particular favor.

1 Referring to Xuanzong's annual visit of the court to Mount Li in winter.

2 "Defend the west" is literally "obstruct autumn," keeping back the Tibetans, whose westerly position corresponds to autumn.

3 Since an earlier Tibetan ruler had married a Chinese princess, Tang treaty relations with Tibet were technically those of uncle to nephew.

12.61

薄暮

江水長流地，
山雲薄暮時。
寒花隱亂草，
4 宿鳥擇深枝。
舊國見何日，
高秋心苦悲。
人生不再好，
8 鬢髮白成絲。

12.62

閬州奉送二十四舅使自京赴任青城

聞道王喬鳥，
名因太史傳。
如何碧雞使，
4 把詔紫微天。
秦嶺愁回馬，
涪江醉泛船。
青城漫汙雜，
8 吾舅意淒然。

12.61

Towards Evening

- Where the River's water ever flows,
 a moment of clouds and mountains towards evening.
 Wintry flowers are hidden by tangles of plants,
 4 the roosting birds choose the deepest branches.
 What day will I see my former land?—
 in high autumn the heart feels bitter sorrow.
 Nothing good any more in this life,
 8 the hairs at my temple have whitened to silk.

In late autumn Du Fu left Zizhou and visited the neighboring prefecture of Langzhou to the northeast. He was indeed looking at the landscape, paying visits, and lamenting the fate of the empire, but it is likely that he was using the extensive network of acquaintances in the area to get financial support. The departure of Yan Wu left him without visible means of support.

12.62

At Langzhou, Respectfully Seeing Off My Twenty-fourth Maternal
 Uncle Sent from the Capital to Take His Post at Qingcheng

- I've heard tell of Wang Qiao's slippers,¹
 his name is transmitted by a Grand Historian.
 How was it that the emerald chicken envoy²
 4 took edict in hand in the Ziwei heaven?³
 On the Qinling Range you sadly turned your horse,
 you sail your boat, drunk on the River Fu.
 Qingcheng is now in a helpless mess,⁴
 8 my uncle's mood is dismal.

1 *Wang Qiao.

2 In the "Biography of Wang Bao" in the *Han History*, Han Xuandi sent Wang Bao to find out about the emerald chicken god that supposedly resided in Sichuan.

3 That is, an edict from the Emperor.

4 With the Tibetan invasion.

12.63

王閬州筵奉酬十一舅惜別之作

萬壑樹聲滿，
千崖秋氣高。
浮舟出郡郭，
4 別酒寄江濤。
良會不復久，
此生何太勞。
窮愁但有骨，
8 群盜尚如毛。
吾舅惜分手，
使君寒贈袍。
沙頭暮黃鵠，
12 失侶自哀號。

12.64

閬州東樓筵奉送十一舅往青城縣得昏字

曾城有高樓，
制古丹牖存。
迢迢百餘尺，
4 豁達開四門。

12.63

At a Party Held by Wang of Langzhou, I Respectfully Answer My
Eleventh Maternal Uncle's Composition on Regretting Parting

- Ten thousand ravines are filled with the sound of trees,
on a thousand slopes the autumn air is high.
We sail in a boat out from the district town,
4 the parting ale is entrusted to the waves.
Such fine gatherings will not last long again,
why is this life so burdened!
In the extreme of sorrow I have only my bones left,
8 the bands of marauders are still as many as hairs.
My uncle regrets this parting,
the prefect gives a gown against the cold.
On the sand a yellow goose at dusk,
12 having lost its companions, cries out mournfully.

12.64

At the Eastern Tower of Langzhou, Respectfully Seeing Off My
Eleventh Maternal Uncle Who Is Going to Qingcheng County
(I got the rhyme *hun*)

- On the tiered wall is a high tower,
an old construction, the red pigment survives.
Rising far up, over a hundred feet,
4 its four gates are wide open.

雖有車馬客，
而無人世喧。
游目俯大江，
8 列筵慰別魂。
是時秋冬交，
節往顏色昏。
天寒鳥獸伏，
12 霜露在草根。
今我送舅氏，
萬感集清尊。
豈伊山川間，
16 回首盜賊繁。
高賢意不暇，
王命久崩奔。
臨風欲慟哭，
20 聲出已復吞。

12.65

放船

送客蒼溪縣，
山寒雨不開。
直愁騎馬滑，
4 故作泛船迴。

- Although there are guests with coach and horse,
 there is no noise of the common world.¹
 My eye roams, looking down on the great river,
 8 a banquet to console the parting soul.
 The time, the juncture of fall and winter,
 the season passes, the face of things darkens.
 The weather cold, birds and beasts hide,
 12 frost and dew lie in the roots of the plants.
 Now I am seeing my uncle off,
 ten thousand stirrings gather in the clear goblet.
 How could it be that just mountains and rivers will lie between?—
 16 I turn my head to the numerous marauders.
 The noble worthy's thoughts are not idle,²
 long dashing headlong at the king's command.
 Facing the wind, I am almost overcome with weeping,
 20 the sound comes out, then is swallowed back again.

12.65

Letting the Boat Go Free

- I sent the traveler on his way in Gray Creek County,³
 the mountains were cold, the rain didn't clear.
 Quite worried that it was too slippery to ride a horse,
 4 I decided to go back by boat.

1 This couplet expands a line by *Tao Qian.

2 Du Fu's uncle.

3 Gray Creek County was in Langzhou.

青惜峰巒過，
 黃知橘柚來。
 江流大自在，
 8 坐穩興悠哉。

12.66

薄遊

淅淅風生砌，
 團團日隱牆。
 遙空秋雁滅，
 4 半嶺暮雲長。
 病葉多先墜，
 寒花只暫香。
 巴城添淚眼，
 8 今夜復秋光。

12.67

嚴氏溪放歌行

天下甲馬未盡銷，
 豈免溝壑常漂漂。
 劍南歲月不可度，
 4 邊頭公卿仍獨驕。

The green brought affection for peaks and ridges passing,
 the yellow told me that oranges and pomelos were coming.
 The River flowed on in great self-contentment,

8 and I sat on it steady, my mood carried far.

12.66

Aimless Wandering

The wind rises, rattling, on the stairs,
 the rounded sun hides behind the wall.

In the distant sky autumn geese vanish,
 4 halfway up the summit the twilight clouds stretch long.

The sick leaves are mostly the first to fall,
 wintry flowers are fragrant only for a while.

This city of Ba increases the tears in my eyes,
 8 tonight, once again, it's autumn light.¹

12.67

At Yan's Creek, "Breaking Into Song": A Ballad

In the world arms and warhorses have not yet all disappeared,
 how can one avoid the mountain ditch, being always swept along?²

The years and months in Jiannan are hard to pass,
 4 lords and grandees on the frontier are singularly haughty.

1 That is, of the moon.

2 A traditional figure for hardship. The echoes *Mencius* III.B.1: "The gentleman of determined aims never forgets the mountain ditch [where his unburied body may end up]" 志士不忘溝壑.

費心姑息是一役，
 肥肉大酒徒相要。
 嗚呼古人已糞土，
 8 獨覺志士甘漁樵。

況我飄轉無定所，
 終日戚戚忍羈旅。
 秋宿霜溪素月高，
 12 喜得與子長夜語。
 東遊西還力實倦，
 從此將身更何許。
 知子松根長茯苓，
 16 遲暮有意來同煮。

12.68

警急

才名舊楚將，
 妙略擁兵機。
 玉壘雖傳檄，
 4 松州會解圍。
 和親知拙計，
 公主漫無歸。

When they try hard to take a break it is just another task for me:
to fatty meats and large amounts of ale they invite me for no purpose.
Alas, the ancients have become dirt and dung,

- 8 I alone realize that a man of high aims would willingly be woodsman or fisherman.

Even more, tossed along, I have no settled place,
anxious and worried all day long I endure travels.
In autumn I spend nights by the frosty creek, the pale moon high
above,

- 12 and I am delighted to join you to chat the long night through.
Wandering east, coming back west, my energy truly wears out,
from this point on where will I find myself next?
I know that by the roots of your pines the *fuling* herb grows,¹
16 in my twilight years I've made up my mind to come boil them with
you.

12.68

Emergency²

Famed for talent, former general in Chu,³
his wondrous strategies encompass military threats.

- Though dispatches are brought from Jade Fort,
4 may he sometime break the siege of Songzhou.
I now know foreign marriage pacts were a stupid plan,
princesses are wasted, never to return.

1 A fungus used in herbal medicine.

2 Original note: "Sir Gao Shi had just taken charge as Military Commissioner of Xichuan" 高公適領西川節度使.

3 In Suzong's reign Gao Shi had been Military Commissioner of Huainan.

青海今誰得，
8 西戎實飽飛。

12.69

王命

漢北豺狼滿，
巴西道路難。
血埋諸將甲，
4 骨斷使臣鞍。
牢落新燒棧，
蒼茫舊築壇。
深懷喻蜀意，
8 慟哭望王官。

12.70

征夫

十室幾人在，
千山空自多。
路衢唯見哭，
4 城市不聞歌。

Who now has taken Kokonor?—

- 8 the Western Rong truly fly with bellies full.¹

In the tenth month came a major Tibetan incursion, with the Tibetans still besieging Songzhou, the fortress prefecture on the Tibetan border. Du Fu's hopes that the situation would now improve were to be dashed.

12.69

Under the King's Command

Wolves and jackals fill north of the Han River,
the roads are hard going in Ba West.

- Blood covers the armor of our generals,
4 bones break on the ambassadors' saddles.
Fallen to ruin, the plankways newly burned,²
lost in the distance, the altar formerly built.³
I deeply feel the import of the "Instruction for Shu,"⁴
8 stirred to tears, I gaze for the king's officer.

12.70

Men on Campaign⁵

Of each ten households how many men survive?—
a thousand mountains, uselessly many.

- On the highways I see only weeping,
4 in city and market I hear no singing.

1 The Tibetans, now like well-fed hawks.

2 The wooden paths and bridges through the mountains connecting Qin and Shu. These were burned by the imperial army to stop Tibetan raids.

3 The altar is to commission a general, in this case Yan Wu, whose current absence from Shu and Ba had led to revolts breaking out everywhere.

4 After Tang Meng ravaged Ba and Shu, Han Wudi sent *Sima Xiangru to calm the populace. His "Instruction for Ba and Shu" survives.

5 The title can also mean "men travelling afar," including Du Fu as well as the soldiers.

漂梗無安地，
銜枚有荷戈。
官軍未通蜀，
8 吾道竟如何。

12.71-73

西山三首

I

夷界荒山頂，
蕃州積雪邊。
築城依白帝，
4 轉粟上青天。
蜀將分旗鼓，
羌兵助鎧鋌。
西戎背和好，
8 殺氣日相纏。

II

辛苦三城戍，
長防萬里秋。
煙塵侵火井，
4 雨雪閉松州。

The wave-tossed stick finds nowhere to rest,¹
 there are those carrying pikes, gags in their mouths.²
 The imperial army has not reached Shu,

8 where will my road go at last?

12.71–73

The Western Mountain³

I

Tibetan border, a rugged peak's summit,
 the march prefectures lie by drifts of snow.
 We build walls resting against the White Emperor,⁴
 4 transported grain rises into the blue heavens.⁵
 Shu generals divide their banners and drums,
 Qiang troops increase our helms and lances.
 The Western Rong reject peaceful relations,

8 the atmosphere of killing encumbers us more each day.

II

Bitter suffering for the garrisons in the three prefectures,⁶
 ever defending against ten thousand leagues of autumn.⁷
 Smoke and dust have invaded Firewell County,

4 falling snow blocks off Songzhou.⁸

1 *Stick adrift.

2 A wooden stick was placed in the mouths of troops to prevent them from making any noise.

3 In 763 the Tibetans besieged Songzhou.

4 The god of the west.

5 Supplying the troops and the corvée conscripts.

6 These were the three fortresses on the Tibetan frontier: Songzhou, Weizhou, and Baozhou.

7 That is, defending against incursions along the long frontier with Tibet.

8 The Tibetans had Songzhou under siege.

風動將軍幕，
 天寒使者裘。
 漫山賊營壘，
 8 迴首得無憂。

III

子弟猶深入，
 關城未解圍。
 蠶崖鐵馬瘦，
 4 灌口米船稀。
 辯士安邊策，
 元戎決勝威。
 今朝烏鵲喜，
 8 欲報凱歌歸。

12.74

與嚴二郎奉禮別

別君誰暖眼，
 將老病纏身。
 出涕同斜日，
 4 臨風看去塵。
 商歌還入夜，
 巴俗自為鄰。

- While the wind stirs the general's tent,
 the weather is cold on the ambassador's furs.
 Far and wide on the mountains, fortified camps of marauders,
 8 turning my head, can I help worrying?

III

- Our federates still go deep into enemy lines,¹
 but the siege of that barrier city is not lifted.
 On Silkworm Slope Pass, armored horses gaunt,
 4 At Guankou, the grain boats few.
 Negotiators, plans to bring peace to the frontier,
 the high command, power to decide victory.
 Today the magpies are joyous,
 8 ready to announce a return with songs of triumph.

12.74

Parting with Yan (2), Vice-Director for Ceremonials

- After parting with you, who will regard me warmly?—
 getting old, sickness entangles me.
 Together in the sinking sun, shedding tears,
 4 facing the wind, I watch the departing dust.²
 My song in the *shang* mode again with the fall of night,³
 the folkways of Ba will be my neighbor.

1 "Federates" are the non-Han peoples fighting with the Tang.

2 Of Yan Wu's carriage.

3 Suggesting Ning Qi's song in the *shang* mode, tapping the horns of a buffalo, at not being appreciated. Heard by Duke Huan of Qi, the song brought Ning Qi recognition.

尚愧微軀在，
8 遙聞盛禮新。
山東群盜散，
闕下受降頻。
諸將歸應盡，
12 題書報旅人。

12.75

贈裴南部

塵滿菜蕪甑，
堂橫單父琴。
人皆知飲水，
4 公輩不偷金。
梁獄書應作，
秦臺鏡欲臨。
獨醒時所嫉，
8 群小謗能深。

- Still ashamed that my insignificant person remains,
 8 I hear afar of splendid ceremonies renewed.
 East of the mountains the bands of rebels have scattered,
 at the palace towers they accept surrenders frequently.
 When all their generals have returned to the court,
 12 write a letter to inform the traveler.

12.75

Presented to Pei of Nanbu County¹

- Dust fills the steamer at Laiwu,²
 in the hall is stretched a zither at Shanfu.³
 Everyone knows that you drink water,⁴
 4 people like you do not steal money.⁵
 In the prison of Liang a letter must have been written,⁶
 you will look into the mirror from the Terrace of Qin.⁷
 The one who is alone sober is hated by the world,⁸
 8 the slander of the petty crowd cuts deeply.

1 Original note: "Hearing that Administrative Assistant Yuan is coming on his own to conduct an investigation" 聞袁判官自來欲有按問。

2 When Fan Dan was magistrate of Laiwu in the Eastern Han he was incorruptible. The locals had a song praising him, saying that dust covered his steamer because of his poverty.

3 Fu Buqi was a virtuous regional official of Shanfu in antiquity. He sat in his hall and played the zither, and his region was transformed by his virtue.

4 When Deng You governed Wu Commandery in the Jin, he brought his own grain, refused salary, and drank only the local water.

5 Zhi Buyi, an official in Han Wendi's reign, was staying with someone. Another man took the host's money by mistake, and the host thought Zhi Buyi took it. Saying nothing, Zhi Buyi gave the host the amount taken. Later the person who took the money by mistake returned it, and the host was very embarrassed.

6 Imprisoned in Liang, the Western Han writer Zou Yang sent a letter stating his innocence.

7 When Liu Bang took Xianyang, he found in the Qin palace a mirror that revealed a person's innards.

8 "The one who is alone sober" is Qu Yuan.

即出黃沙在，
何須白髮侵。
使君傳舊德，
12 已見直繩心。

12.76

巴山

巴山遇中使，
云自陝城來。
盜賊還奔突，
4 乘輿恐未回。
天寒邵伯樹，
地闊望仙臺。
狼狽風塵裏，
8 群臣安在哉。

12.77

早花

西京安穩未，
不見一人來。
臘日巴江曲，
4 山花已自開。

You will be straightaway out of Yellow Sands Prison,¹
 why should you let white hairs invade your head?

- The officer sent is known for his long-standing virtue,
 12 and has already shown his heart to be straight as a rope.

On November 18, 763, after defeating the army shielding the capital, a Tibetan force entered Chang'an. Two days earlier the emperor and court had fled to Shanzhou. Guo Ziyi, one of the court's most loyal generals managed to convince the Tibetans that a large Tang army was on its way, and on November 30, they fled the city.

12.76

Ba's Mountains

In Ba mountains I met a court messenger,
 he says that he came from Shanzhou.²

- The marauders have struck again,
 4 and I fear that the imperial palanquin has not yet returned.
 The weather is cold at the Earl of Shao's tree,³
 the land is vast from Terrace for Gazing at Immortals.⁴
 In panic in the wind-blown dust,
 8 the hosts of officials, where are they now?

12.77

Early Flowers

Has the Western Capital grown peaceful yet?—
 I haven't seen anyone coming from there.
 Winter La Festival by the bends of Ba rivers,
 4 the mountain flowers are already blooming.

1 A prison in the Jin.

2 Where Daizong fled when the Tibetans took the capital.

3 The Earl of Shao, a son of King Wen of Zhou, used to listen to disputes under a tree.

4 Built by Han Wudi. Daizong must have passed this.

- 盈盈當雪杏，
豔豔待春梅。
直苦風塵暗，
8 誰憂客鬢催。

12.78

發閬中

- 前有毒蛇後猛虎，
溪行盡日無村塢。
江風蕭蕭雲拂地，
4 山木慘慘天欲雨。
女病妻憂歸意速，
秋花錦石誰復數。
別家三月一得書，
8 避地何時免愁苦。

12.79

江陵望幸

- 雄都元壯麗，
望幸歎威神。
地利西通蜀，
4 天文北照秦。

- Lovely, the apricot in the snow,
 gorgeous, the plum tree waiting for spring.
 I just suffer the darkening of wind-blown dust,
 8 who worries that the traveler's tresses grow too swiftly white?

12.78

Setting Out from Langzhong

- Ahead there are poisonous serpents, fierce tigers lie behind,
 I go on the stream all day long, no hamlets or villages.
 The river wind whistles, clouds brush the ground,
 4 the mountain trees are gloomy, the heavens about to rain.
 My daughter is sick, my wife worried, I want to get back in a hurry,
 of autumn flowers and stones like brocade I don't take note this time.
 Three months away from home and only once I got a letter,
 8 when in this place of refuge have I avoided bitter sorrow?

12.79

Hope for an Imperial Visit to Jiangling

- This mighty capital has ever had a vigorous beauty,¹
 hoping for an imperial visit, in a flash it is majestic and divine.
 The advantage of the site: it communicates with Shu in the west,
 4 its heavenly sign shines next to Qin, lying north.²

1 Jiangling had replaced Chengdu as the nominal "southern capital."

2 Each section of the terrestrial empire corresponded with an astronomical region:
 Jiangling's astronomical region was adjacent to that of Qin, containing Chang'an.

風煙含越鳥，
舟楫控吳人。
未枉周王駕，
8 終期漢武巡。
甲兵分聖旨，
居守付宗臣。
早發雲臺仗，
12 恩波起涸鱗。

12.80

愁坐

高齋常見野，
愁坐更臨門。
十月山寒重，
4 孤城月水昏。
葭萌氏種迴，
左擔犬戎屯。
終日憂奔走，
8 歸期未敢論。

- The windblown mist hides birds from Yue,
 its boats, controlled by folk of Wu.
 It never drew aside the Zhou king's carriage,¹
 8 in the end it expects Han Wudi's tour of inspection.²
 Troops are apportioned by sage direction,
 guardianship of the capital is entrusted to a revered officer.³
 Let the Cloud Terrace court assembly set out soon,
 12 waves of grace will revive the dried out scales.⁴

12.80

Sitting in Sorrow

- In the high study I always see the wilds,
 I sit in sorrow, still looking out the gate.
 In the tenth month the cold is heavy in the mountains,
 4 in the lonely city the moonlit waters are fogged over.
 The Di folk are remote from Jiameng County,⁵
 the Dog Rong camp on the "Left Shoulder" roads.⁶
 All day long I worry about fleeing,
 8 I dare not consider a time for returning home.

1 Referring to the travels of King Mu of Zhou.

2 Han Wudi did travel south; here the reference is to Daizong.

3 Guo Ziyi, who was to hold Chang'an in the event of an imperial visit to Jiangling.

4 Comparing the people of Jiangling to fish dying out of water, who will be revived by the imperial presence.

5 The Qiang people.

6 The roads in some parts of Sichuan were so narrow that porters could carry burdens only on their left shoulders but not on their right, hence they were called "left shoulder" roads. The Dog Rong was an archaic designation for the Tibetans.

12.81

遣憂

亂離知又甚，
消息苦難真。
受諫無今日，
4 臨危憶古人。
紛紛乘白馬，
攘攘著黃巾。
隋氏留宮室，
8 焚燒何太頻。

12.82

冬狩行

君不見
東川節度兵馬雄，
校獵亦似觀成功。
夜發猛士三千人，
4 清晨合圍步驟同。
禽獸已斃十七八，
殺聲落日迴蒼穹。
幕前生致九青兕，
8 駝駝巘巘垂玄熊。

12.81

Venting My Worries

I learn that war and separation are once again extreme,¹
terribly hard to know if the news is true.

Had remonstrance been heeded, this day would not have been,²

4 facing peril, I recall the ancients.

All over the place they ride white horses,³

helter-skelter, wearing yellow turbans.⁴

There are palaces remaining from the Sui,

8 why are things burned down so frequently?

12.82

The Winter Hunt: A Ballad⁵

Have you not seen

the virile force of the war-horses of Dongchuan's Commissioner?—

even his stockade hunt resembles watching a great deed of merit.

By night he sent out fierce soldiers three thousand strong,

4 by clear dawn they made the encirclement, moving in unison.

The birds and beasts already slain are seven or eight in ten,

from the sounds of killing the setting sun is turned back in the gray
vault.

Before his tent are brought alive nine dark-blue rhinos.

8 from the looming humps of camels hang black bears.

1 Referring to the Tibetan occupation of Chang'an.

2 Perhaps referring to Guo Ziyi's earlier warning that the Tibetans were a serious threat to the capital and precautions should be taken.

3 Like the rebel Hou Jing, who took the capital Jiankang in the Liang.

4 Referring to the Eastern Han rebels, the Yellow Turbans, and here the enemies of the Tang.

5 Original note: "At the time the Governor of Zizhou Zhang Yi was also Attendant Censor and Capital Liaison in Dongchuan" 時梓州刺史章彝兼侍御史留後東川.

- 東西南北百里間，
髣髴蹴踏寒山空。
有鳥名鸛鵒，
12 力不能高飛逐走蓬。
肉味不足登鼎俎，
胡為見羈虞羅中。
春蒐冬狩侯得同，
16 使君五馬一馬驄。
況今攝行大將權，
號令頗有前賢風。
飄然時危一老翁，
20 十年厭見旌旗紅。
喜君士卒甚整肅，
為我迴轡擒西戎。
草中狐兔盡何益，
24 天子不在咸陽宮。
朝廷雖無幽王禍，
得不哀痛塵再蒙。
嗚呼，
得不哀痛塵再蒙。

East and west and north and south for a span of a hundred leagues,
it seems that they have trampled the cold mountains bare.

There is a bird named the crested mynah

- 12 whose strength does not let it fly high, along with the speeding
dandelion puff.

The taste of its flesh is not worth adding to cauldron or platter—
why has it been caught within the fowler's snares?

The spring chase and the winter hunt are shared privileges of the high
nobility,

- 16 with a governor's five-horse team and a single dappled gray¹
Now you have also taken on the authority of a general,
and your orders have quite the manner of good, wise men of old.
Swept along in perilous times, I, a single old man,

- 20 after ten years am sick of the sight of red flags and banners.

Yet I rejoice at your troops, how strictly ordered they are,
on my behalf turn your reins and seize the Western Rong.²

What advantage to clear away all the foxes and hares in the brush?—

- 24 the Son of Heaven is not to be found in his palace in Xianyang.³
Although the court has not suffered the disaster of Zhou King You,⁴
can one help lament that an emperor again is covered in dust?⁵
Alas!

can one help lament that an emperor again is covered in dust?

1 "Five horses" was the privilege of a prefect and metonymy for a prefect. The Censor Huan Dian in the Eastern Han rode a dappled gray, hence the "single dappled gray" was associated with a position in the censorate. Zhang Yi holds both the position of prefect and a censorate position concurrently.

2 The Tibetans.

3 That is, Daizong has been forced to flee Chang'an.

4 King You of the Western Zhou, besotted with his consort Bao Si, was killed by Di invaders and his capital fell.

5 To be "covered in dust" refers to an emperor being driven from his capital.

12.83

山寺

野寺根石壁，
諸龕遍崔嵬。
前佛不復辨，
4 百身一莓苔。
雖有古殿存，
世尊亦塵埃。
如聞龍象泣，
8 足令信者哀。
使君騎紫馬，
捧擁從西來。
樹羽靜千里，
12 臨江久徘徊。
山僧衣藍縷，
告訴棟樑摧。
公為顧賓徒，
16 咄嗟檀施開。
吾知多羅樹，
卻倚蓮華臺。
諸天必歡喜，
20 鬼物無嫌猜。

12.83

Mountain Temple¹

- Wilderness temple, rooted on a stone cliff,
 many niches cover the looming slopes.
 You can no longer distinguish the former Buddhas,
 4 a hundred bodies, all covered in moss.
 Although there is an ancient hall still standing,
 the Revered One is in grime and dust.
 It is as if one can hear the dragons and elephants weep,²
 8 enough to cause believers to lament.
 The prefect was riding his purple horse,
 surrounded by a throng he came from the west.
 His pennants, planted, made it calm for a thousand leagues,
 12 standing by the river he lingered long.
 Mountain monks clothed in tattered rags
 complained how beams and timbers were collapsing.
 Because of this, His Lordship looked around at his entourage,
 16 with a pained sigh, began a donation.
 I know that the fan-palm tree
 will rest again by his platform of lotus.³
 All the devas will surely rejoice,
 20 and spirit beings will have no complaints.

1 Note: "Visited with Deputy Zhang. I got the rhyme *kai*" 章留後同遊得開字。

2 Dragons and elephants are figure for arhats and bodhisattvas.

3 That is, with the image of Buddha.

以茲撫士卒，
 孰曰非周才。
 窮子失淨處，
 24 高人憂禍胎。
 歲晏風破肉，
 荒林寒可迴。
 思量入道苦，
 28 自哂同嬰孩。

12.84

桃竹杖引

江心蟠石生桃竹，
 蒼波噴浸尺度足。
 斬根削皮如紫玉，
 4 江妃水仙惜不得。
 梓潼使君開一束，
 滿堂賓客皆歎息。

憐我老病贈兩莖，
 8 出入爪甲鏗有聲。
 老夫復欲東南征，
 乘濤鼓枻白帝城。

- By this deed he soothes the troops,
 who says he is not a perfect talent?
 The poor man loses this place of purity,
 24 the lofty man worries about the womb of disaster.
 The year is late, the wind tears the flesh,
 to the wild forests the cold may return.
 When I consider the sufferings of becoming a monk,
 28 I mock myself, as being like a child.

12.84

Lay of the Peach-Bamboo Staffs¹

- On a boulder in the river's heart grows the "peach-bamboo,"
 soaked by the spume of gray waves, to the depth of a foot.
 They cut the roots and scraped the skin to be like purple jade,
 4 river goddesses and water sprites could not begrudge them.
 When the governor of Zitong opened a bundle,
 all the guests that filled his hall sighed in wonderment.
 Pitying that I am old and sick, he gave to me two stalks,
 8 coming and going my fingernails make a sound on their hardness.
 Then this old fellow next wants to journey to the southeast,
 he will ride the billows and pull the sweep to White Emperor Castle.

1 Original note: "Presented to Deputy Zhang" 贈章留後.

- 路幽必為鬼神奪，
 12 拔劍或與蛟龍爭。
 重為告曰，
 杖兮杖兮。
 爾之生也甚正直，
 16 慎勿見水踴躍
 學變化為龍，
 使我不得爾之扶持，
 滅跡於君山
 20 湖上之青峰。
 噫，
 風塵瀕洞兮
 豺虎咬人，
 忽失雙杖兮
 24 吾將曷從。

12.85

將適吳楚留別章使君留後兼幕府諸公，
 得柳字

- 我來入蜀門，
 歲月亦已久。
 豈惟長兒童，
 4 自覺成老醜。

- The route is secluded and I am sure they will be snatched by demons,
 12 I draw my sword—for perhaps I might fight with dragons or krakens.
 As a reprise I made a declaration that went:
 O staffs! O staffs!
 you were born extremely straight and upright—
 16 take care not to leap up seeing the water
 and imitate the transformation into dragons!¹
 thus making me unable to have your support
 when I hide my traces on the green peak
 20 of the lake of the Mountain of the Lady.²
 Woe!
 a vast shapeless turbulence of windblown dust,
 jackals and tigers bite men,
 should I suddenly lose this pair of staffs,
 24 how would I keep going?

12.85

About to Set Off for Wu and Chu, I Am Detained on Parting by Prefect Zhang, the Deputy, and the Various Gentlemen at Headquarters.
 (I got the rhyme *liu*)

- Since I entered the gateway to Shu,
 the years and months have grown long.
 It's not only that my sons have grown,
 4 I feel I myself have become ugly and old.

1 This alludes to the story of the bamboo staff that the Pot-Lord gave to Fei Zhangfang, which turned into a dragon. However, as Yang Dezhou points out (cited in Qiu) it also refers to the swords found by Lei Huan, one of which, seeing the water, leapt from his hand and transformed into a dragon.

2 An isle in Lake Dongting.

- 常恐性坦率，
失身為杯酒。
近辭痛飲徒，
8 折節萬夫後。
昔如縱壑魚，
今如喪家狗。
既無游方戀，
12 行止復何有。
相逢半新故，
取別隨薄厚。
不意青草湖，
16 扁舟落吾手。
眷眷章梓州，
開筵俯高柳。
樓前出騎馬，
20 帳下羅賓友。
健兒簸紅旗，
此樂或難朽。
日車隱崑崙，
24 鳥雀噪戶牖。
波濤未足畏，
三峽徒雷吼。
所憂盜賊多，
28 重見衣冠走。

- I always fear my careless, direct nature,
 that I'll lose my life because of a cup of ale.
 Recently I've withdrawn from the heavy drinkers,
 8 curbed my principles, humbled myself before all.
 I used to be like a fish set loose in a gorge,
 now I'm like a dog who has lost its home.
 Lacking that love that asks a destination in travel,¹
 12 what more is there now than just going and stopping?
 Those I meet are half old friends, half new,
 in parting, it is sumptuous or meager accordingly.
 Unexpectedly for Green Grass Lake²
 16 a little boat came into my hands.
 I look with great affection on Zhang of Zizhou,
 he held this party looking down on high willows.
 Before the tower come forth horsemen,
 20 by the tents are ranged guests and friends.
 The regulars wave red banners,
 such joy will never fade.
 The sun carriage hides behind the Kunlun Mountains,
 24 birds chatter by doors and windows.
 The waves are not worth dreading,
 the Three Gorges roar and thunder in vain.
 What worries me is the number of marauders,
 28 again I have seen those in caps and gowns flee.³

1 Analects, IV.19 "Li ren": "[When parents are alive,] when one travels, one should have a destination" 游必有方。

2 Part of Dongting Lake.

3 Twice officials have fled the occupation of Chang'an.

中原消息斷，
黃屋今安否。
終作適荆蠻，
32 安排用莊叟。
隨雲拜東皇，
掛席上南斗。
有使即寄書，
36 無使長迴首。

12.86

舍弟占歸草堂檢校聊示此詩

久客應吾道，
相隨獨爾來。
孰知江路近，
4 頻為草堂迴。
鵝鴨宜長數，
柴荆莫浪開。
東林竹影薄，
8 臘月更須栽。

- News is cut off from the Central Plain,
 is the yellow awning at rest now or not?¹
 In the end I'll go off to Jing-Mon,
 32 "at rest amid change," as old Zhuangzi advised.
 Following the clouds I'll bow to the Lord of the East,
 set my sail and go to the Southern Dipper.
 If you have someone go on a mission, send a letter right away,
 36 if you don't, always turn your head to think of me.

12.86

My Younger Brother Zhan Is Going to My Thatched Cottage to Check
 on It: I Showed Him This Poem

- To be long a traveler must be my way,
 you are the only one who has come to join me.
 You know well that it is close by on the river road,
 4 you frequently return to my thatched cottage.
 It is right that you always count number of geese and ducks,
 don't leave my ramshackle gate carelessly open.
 If the shadows of the eastern bamboo grove have thinned,
 8 in the twelfth month you should plant some more.

1 The emperor's carriage.

12.87

歲暮

歲暮遠為客，
邊隅還用兵。
煙塵犯雪嶺，
4 鼓角動江城。
天地日流血，
朝廷誰請纓。
濟時敢愛死，
8 寂寞壯心驚。

12.88

送李卿暉

王子思歸日，
長安已亂兵。
沾衣問行在，
4 走馬向承明。
暮景巴蜀僻，
春風江漢清。
晉山雖自棄，
8 魏闕尚含情。

12.87

Year's End

- Year's end, a wayfarer far from home,
 frontier's edge, troops put in action again.
 Smoke and dust invade snowy summits,¹
 4 drums and bugles stir the river city.
 Heaven and earth daily flow with blood,
 who requests cords from the court?²
 Dare one begrudge death to save the age?—
 8 melancholy silence, the bold heart alarmed.

12.88

Seeing Off Li Ye

- On the day that the prince longs to return,
 there are already soldiers fighting in Chang'an.³
 With tear-soaked robes you will seek the emperor's camp,
 4 galloping your horse toward Chengming Palace.⁴
 Twilight scene in remote Ba and Shu,
 spring breeze, the Han River clear.
 Although cast off myself in the mountain of Jin,⁵
 8 I still hold the gate-towers of Wei in my heart.⁶

1 The Tibetan attack on the border prefectures of West River.

2 Zhong Jun requested long cords from Han Wudi so that he could tie up the King of Yue and send him to Chang'an.

3 The Tibetan occupation.

4 A Han palace, here standing for where Daizong had fled.

5 Several explanations have been offered for "the mountain of Jin": in may refer to Jin'an County in Langzhou or a Daoist who abstained from grain. Qiu thinks it refers to Jie Zhitui, the companion of Chong'er, Duke Wen of Jin, who, unrewarded for his service, went and hid out in the mountains.

6 That is, though absent, he thinks of the court.

12.89

釋悶

四海十年不解兵，
 犬戎也復臨咸京。
 失道非關出襄野，
 4 揚鞭忽是過湖城。
 豺狼塞路人斷絕，
 烽火照夜屍縱橫。
 天子亦應厭奔走，
 8 群公固合思昇平。
 但恐誅求不改轍，
 聞道嬖孽能全生。
 江邊老翁錯料事，
 12 眼暗不見風塵清。

12.90

贈別賀蘭鈺

黃雀飽野粟，
 群飛動荊榛。
 今君抱何恨，
 4 寂寞向時人。

12.89

Dissipating Melancholy

For ten years in this sea-girt world arms have not been put down,
 and once again the Dog Rong look down upon Xianyang.¹
 Losing one's way has nothing to do with going forth on the moors of
 Xiang,²

- 4 lifting his whip may be like going past Yuhu's walls.³
 Wolves and jackals fill the road, human travelers, gone;
 beacon fires light up the night, corpses strewn everywhere.
 I'm sure that the Son of Heaven is tired of running away,
 8 indeed all the lords should put their minds to finding peace.
 I only fear that in exactions and demands they will not change their
 track,
 and I've heard it said that favored scum have been able to keep their
 lives.
 This old man by the riverside reckons things wrongly—
 12 my eyes are dim, and I do not see the wind-blown dust clearing.

12.90

Presented to Helan Xian on Parting

Brown sparrows eat their fill of wild chestnuts,
 they fly in a flock, stirring in brambles and brush.
 What bitterness do you now have within

- 4 that you face men of these times with gloomy silence?

1 This refers to the Tibetan invasion of Chang'an in 765.

2 This refers to the story in the *Zhuangzi* in which the Yellow Emperor went looking for the Great Clod and lost his way, asking directions of a boy herding horses.

3 This alludes to a story of Jin Mingdi who, dressed as a soldier but provided with a golden whip, went to spy out the enemy camp. A portent revealed his presence, but he escaped pursuers.

老驥倦驤首，
蒼鷹愁易馴。
高賢世未識，
8 固合嬰饑貧。
國步初返正，
乾坤尚風塵。
悲歌鬢髮白，
12 遠赴湘吳春。
我戀岷下芋，
君思千里蓴。
生離與死別，
16 自古鼻酸辛。

- The old steed is weary of tossing his head,
 the gray hawk, in sadness, is easy to tame.
 The lofty and worthy, unrecognized by the age,
 8 will indeed surely be trapped in poverty and hunger.
 The dynasty's fate now returns to the proper,
 though the world is still in windblown dust.¹
 You sing out sadly, the hair at your temples white,
 12 setting off afar to spring by the Xiang and Wu.
 I yearn for the taros at the foot of Mount Min,
 you think on the water-shield a thousand leagues away.²
 Parting in life and separation by death
 16 since ancient days have made men's eyes water in pain.

1 This refers to the Emperor's return to the capital after the brief Tibetan occupation of Chang'an.

2 *Zhang Han.