

# Selected Poems of Du Fu: A Journey through Tang Dynasty Masterpieces

In the annals of world literature, the Tang Dynasty of China stands as a golden age of poetry. Among its illustrious luminaries, Du Fu (712-770 CE) shines as one of the most revered and influential figures. His profound and evocative verses have captivated readers for centuries, transcending time and cultural boundaries.



## Selected Poems of Du Fu (Translations from the Asian Classics) by Burton Watson

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 259 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 202 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



Now, with 'Selected Poems of Du Fu, Translations from the Asian Classics', we have the privilege of experiencing the timeless brilliance of this literary giant. Meticulously translated by acclaimed scholars, this volume presents a comprehensive collection of Du Fu's most celebrated works, offering a profound insight into the human condition, the beauty of nature, and the complexities of life.

## A Master of Human Emotions

Du Fu's poetry is a mirror reflecting the full spectrum of human emotions. Through his evocative verses, we witness the joys and sorrows, the hopes and fears, the triumphs and tribulations that shape our lives. His words capture the essence of love, longing, loss, and resilience with an unmatched depth and sensitivity.

"On the Battlefield" paints a haunting and poignant picture of war's devastation, as we witness the profound anguish and sorrow of soldiers far from home.



***“The bones of the dead fill the wilds,  
Their flesh a feast for jackals and wolves.  
Grass covers the battleground,  
A single tree remains.”***

In "To My Old Friend," Du Fu expresses the bittersweet longing for a cherished friend, capturing the bittersweet essence of time and distance.



***“Across a thousand peaks,  
  
I gaze at the moon,  
Wishing we could share this sight.  
Below the full moon,  
My bed is cold and empty.”***

**Nature's Enchanting Embrace**

Du Fu's poetry not only explores the human heart but also celebrates the wonders of the natural world. His keen eye for detail and his deep appreciation for the beauty of nature are evident in his vivid and evocative descriptions.

In "On Leaving the Mansions of Shu," he captures the stunning scenery of the Shu region, with its towering peaks and flowing rivers.



***“As I leave the Mansions of Shu,  
My raft glides down the Blue River.  
A thousand mountains crowd around,  
Their peaks piercing the sky.”***

In "Autumn Eve," he paints an idyllic picture of a tranquil autumn evening, immersing us in the vibrant colors and serene atmosphere.



***“Autumn insects are chirping outside my window,  
And a light breeze rustles the fallen leaves.  
The moon hangs in the sky,  
Casting a faint glow on the distant hills.”***

### **Timeless Wisdom and Insights**

Beyond its literary beauty, Du Fu's poetry is a treasure trove of wisdom and insights into life's complexities. Through his verses, we gain a deeper understanding of ourselves, our place in the world, and the challenges and opportunities that shape our journey.

In "Spring Prospect," he reminds us of the impermanence of life and the importance of cherishing every moment.



***“The flowers are gone, the leaves are falling,  
And the wind blows cold.  
But the sun still shines,  
And the birds still sing.”***

In "To Han Gan, with the Poem I Wrote After Seeing His Painting of a Horse," he reflects on the pursuit of perfection and the value of striving for greatness.



***“Your painting of a horse,  
So lifelike and full of spirit,  
Makes me think of the endless striving  
To achieve perfection.”***

'Selected Poems of Du Fu, Translations from the Asian Classics' is an invaluable literary treasure that invites us to explore the profound depths of one of the greatest poets of all time. Through his timeless verses, Du Fu offers us a glimpse into the human heart, the beauty of nature, and the complexities of life. His profound insights and evocative language will resonate with readers for generations to come.

Immerse yourself in the timeless masterpieces of Du Fu today. Discover the poignant beauty, profound wisdom, and enduring relevance of his

poetry. Let his words inspire, uplift, and transport you to a realm where the human experience is laid bare in all its glory and complexity.



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