
CONTENTS



Thematic Contents vii

Preface to the How to Read Chinese Literature Series xix

Preface to the Volume xxxi

Chronology of Historical Events xxxiii

Symbols and Abbreviations xxxvii

Introduction: The Cultural Role of Chinese Poetry 1

ZONG-QI CAI

PART I: PRE-HAN TIMES 11

1. Poetry and Diplomacy in *Zuo Tradition* (*Zuozhuan*) 13

WAI-YEE LI

2. Poetry and Authorship: The *Songs of Chu* (*Chuci*) 30

STEPHEN OWEN

PART II: THE HAN DYNASTY 49

3. Empire in Text: Sima Xiangru's "Sir Vacuous/Imperial Park Rhapsody"
("Zixu/Shanglin fu") 51

YU-YU CHENG AND GREGORY PATTERSON

4. Poetry and Ideology: The Canonization of the *Book of Poetry* (*Shijing*) During the Han 65

ZONG-QI CAI

5. Love Beyond the Grave: A Tragic Tale of Love and Marriage in Han China 78

OLGA LOMOVÁ

PART III: THE SIX DYNASTIES 97

6. Heroes from Chaotic Times: The Three Caos 99

XINDA LIAN

7. The Worthies of the Bamboo Grove 116
NANXIU QIAN
8. The Poetry of Reclusion: Tao Qian 130
ALAN BERKOWITZ
9. The Struggling Buddhist Mind: Shen Yue 146
MEOW HUI GOH

PART IV: THE TANG DYNASTY 157

10. Knight-Errantry: Tang Frontier Poems 159
TSUNG-CHENG LIN
11. Tang Civil Service Examinations 173
MANLING LUO
12. Tang Women at the Public/Private Divide 185
MAIJA BELL SAMEI
13. Poetry and Buddhist Enlightenment: Wang Wei and Han Shan 205
CHEN YINCHI AND JING CHEN
14. Drinking Alone Beneath the Moon: Li Bai and the Poetics of Wine 223
PAULA VARSANO
15. Du Fu: The Poet as Historian 236
JACK W. CHEN
16. Poetry and Literati Friendship: Bai Juyi and Yuan Zhen 248
AO WANG
17. Li He: Poetry as Obsession 261
ROBERT ASHMORE

Acknowledgments 275

Contributors 277

Glossary-Index 281