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Love And The Turning: One Hundred More Poems From The Chinese



Synopsis

An assemblage of delicate Chinese verse which delicately explore the worlds of love, nature, and meditation. Love and the Turning Year includes a selection from the Yueh Fu •folk songs from the Six Dynasties Period (fourth-fifth centuries A.D.). Most of the songs are simple, erotic lyrics. Some are attributed to legendary courtesans, while others may have been sung at harvest festivals or marriage celebrations. In addition to the folk songs, Rexroth offers a wide sampling of Chinese verse: works by 60 different poets, from the third century to our own time. Rexroth always translated Chinese poetry •as he said• œsolely to please myself. • And he created, with remarkable success, English versions which stand as poems in their own right.

Book Information

Paperback: 140 pages

Publisher: New Directions Publishing; Fifth or Later Edition edition (1970)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0811201791

ISBN-13: 978-0811201797

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars • See all reviews (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #597,008 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > Asian > Chinese

Customer Reviews

I have had a life-long passion for all kinds of poetry; however, my favorite style of poetry has always been the Asian poetry forms such as Haiku and Senryu. I also love the Chinese poems for the same reasons. Many times these kinds of poetry have been called •Zen poetry• because of the brevity of most of these Asian poems. I have numerous volumes of Asian poetry and I recently purchased this wonderful 142 page soft cover book (One hundred more poems from the Chinese Love and the turning year edited by Kenneth Rexroth) from at a bargain price. I have tried,(unsuccessfully) to enjoy the long drawn out, boring and often filled with meaningless prose •free verse• poetry of the west, which is popular with university professors and pseudo-intellectuals. This is why I no longer subscribe to the main street poetry journals. Contrast this to the poems of the east, which are almost, always clear, easy to understand and capture a •Zen• moment in time. This fantastic volume is the second in the series (One hundred poems

from the Chinese) and there are so many wonderful poems that this short review cannot do it justice. The beauty of these poems is that almost all of them are short and to the point. They tell so much in a few words. William Shakespeare, who was the master of prose and poetry, has said: "Brevity is the soul of wit." • Most Asian poetry forms follow the famous "Bard's" advice when it comes to their poetry.

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