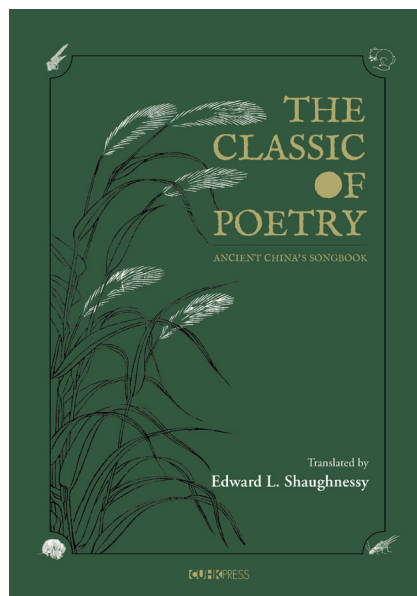




香港中文大學出版社  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press  
cup.cuhk.edu.hk | HONG KONG, CHINA



October 2026 • 229 x 152 mm • 508 pages

Paperback

Chinese Literature / Poetry

ISBN 978-988-237-426-3

**HK\$240 / US\$30**

ORDER & INFORMATION



The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press

Lady Ho Tung Hall

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Sha Tin, N.T.

Hong Kong SAR

Tel +852 3943 9800

Fax +852 2603 7355

Email [cup-bus@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:cup-bus@cuhk.edu.hk)

Website [cup.cuhk.edu.hk](http://cup.cuhk.edu.hk)

# The Classic of Poetry

## Ancient China's Songbook

Translated by Edward L. Shaughnessy

**A colloquial English version of an archaic monument that belies the philological labor**

*The Classic of Poetry* (Shijing), also known as the “Mao Poetry” (*Mao Shi*), is the oldest existing collection of poetry in China, or indeed anywhere in the world. As a fountainhead of the Chinese literary tradition, it has endured over two and a half millennia of continuous readership. In this volume, eminent sinologist Edward L. Shaughnessy presents a complete English translation of the 305 discrete poems from the Classic of Poetry, divided into the *Feng* 風 “airs,” *Ya* 雅 “odes,” and *Song* 頌 “hymns.” Combining the received text with newly unearthed manuscript discoveries, Shaughnessy offers a modern, authoritative interpretation that departs from the dated translations of earlier scholars. His masterful rendering encapsulates the essence of this poetic treasury, reflecting the diverse aspects of life, love, nature, and ritual in ancient China.

**Edward L. Shaughnessy** (translator) is the Lorraine J. and Herrlee G. Creel Distinguished Service Professor in Early China Studies in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Most recently the author of *The Tsinghua University Warring States Manuscripts, Volume 2: The Shang Shu and Pseudo-Shang Shu Chapters* (2024), *Writing Early China* (2023), *A Brief History of Ancient China* (2023), and *The Origin and Early Development of the Zhou Changes* (2022), he specializes in the textual heritage of ancient China, both the received literary tradition and also unearthed documents.

“

Solidly grounded in classical and modern scholarship, this book offers a thoughtful and highly readable English version of an archaic monument of world literature that in many of its lines appears once again as fresh and beautiful as it remains richly ambiguous and open to every new reader's intuition.

— **Martin Kern**  
Princeton University