

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature

Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature: A Gateway to Ancient Wisdom

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature serves as an essential resource for anyone interested in exploring the rich tapestry of China's literary heritage. This carefully curated collection brings together a diverse selection of poems, essays, stories, and philosophical texts that have shaped Chinese culture for millennia. Whether you're a student, scholar, or simply a curious reader, this anthology offers a captivating journey into the world of traditional Chinese literature, making it accessible and engaging without overwhelming the reader.

What Makes the Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature Unique?

The "shorter" aspect of the Columbia anthology is significant. Traditional Chinese literature is vast, spanning thousands of years and encompassing countless works. The complete Columbia Anthology is extensive, but this shorter edition distills the essence into a more manageable volume, perfect for newcomers or those seeking a concise overview. It balances breadth and depth, including seminal works from different dynasties and genres while maintaining readability.

Unlike many anthologies that focus solely on classical poetry or Confucian philosophy, the shorter Columbia anthology provides a well-rounded selection. It includes:

- Classical poetry from the Tang and Song dynasties
- Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist philosophical texts
- Historical narratives and folk tales
- Prose and essays that reveal social and cultural contexts

This diversity helps readers appreciate the multifaceted nature of Chinese literature and its enduring influence.

Exploring the Contents: A Journey Through Time

and Thought

One of the most compelling features of the shorter Columbia anthology is its chronological and thematic organization. Readers can trace the evolution of literary styles and ideas while witnessing how historical events shaped the texts.

Poetry: The Heartbeat of Chinese Literature

Traditional Chinese poetry is celebrated for its elegance, brevity, and profound imagery. The anthology highlights iconic poets such as Li Bai and Du Fu, whose works capture the beauty of nature, human emotion, and philosophical reflection. Through these poems, readers gain insight into the Tang dynasty's vibrant cultural life and the Song dynasty's refined literary aesthetics.

What makes these poems resonate today is their universal themes—love, loss, friendship, and the quest for harmony—that transcend time and geography. The shorter Columbia anthology's translations preserve the lyrical quality and subtle nuances, making them accessible to a modern audience.

Philosophical Texts: Foundations of Chinese Thought

Chinese philosophy is a cornerstone of traditional literature, and the anthology includes key excerpts from Confucian classics like the Analects, Daoist works such as the Dao De Jing, and Buddhist sutras that entered China through cultural exchange. These texts provide wisdom on ethics, governance, and the nature of existence.

By presenting these texts alongside poetry and prose, the anthology offers a holistic understanding of how philosophy permeates Chinese literature and daily life. Readers can explore concepts like filial piety, harmony with nature, and the balance between action and non-action.

Prose and Narrative: Stories That Shaped Culture

Beyond poetry and philosophy, the anthology features prose works and narratives that reveal the social fabric of traditional China. From historical accounts to folk tales, these texts shed light on the values, customs, and challenges of past societies.

For example, short stories from the Ming and Qing dynasties illustrate human nature and morality with wit and sometimes irony. These narratives enrich the reader's experience by adding texture and context to the more formal literary and philosophical works.

Why Use the Shorter Columbia Anthology in Academic and Personal Study?

For educators and students, the shorter Columbia anthology is a valuable teaching tool. Its concise format allows for focused study without sacrificing the depth necessary to appreciate traditional Chinese literature's complexity. The anthology often includes helpful introductions, notes, and glossaries that clarify historical and cultural references.

Enhancing Language Learning and Cultural Appreciation

Readers interested in learning Chinese or deepening their cultural understanding find this anthology especially beneficial. It bridges linguistic and cultural gaps, offering translations that retain stylistic elegance and explanatory commentary that contextualizes the works.

Facilitating Comparative Literature Studies

Because it presents a broad spectrum of genres and themes, the shorter Columbia anthology is ideal for comparative literature courses. Students can compare Chinese literary traditions with those from other cultures, exploring universal themes and distinctive stylistic approaches.

Tips for Getting the Most Out of the Shorter Columbia Anthology

To truly appreciate the wealth contained in this anthology, consider these approaches:

- **Read Slowly and Reflectively:** Traditional Chinese literature often uses symbolism and allusion. Taking time to ponder each piece allows a deeper emotional and intellectual connection.
- **Use Supplementary Materials:** Consult historical timelines, maps, and scholarly commentaries to enhance your understanding of the contexts behind the texts.
- **Discuss with Others:** Joining reading groups or online forums focused on Chinese literature can provide new perspectives and enrich your reading experience.
- **Explore Related Art Forms:** Chinese calligraphy, painting, and music often intersect with literature, providing a fuller appreciation of the cultural milieu.

Where to Find the Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature

The anthology is widely available through academic bookstores, online retailers, and university libraries. Many editions come with supplementary digital resources, including audio readings and interactive annotations, which can be invaluable for modern readers.

For those interested in a curated yet approachable collection that opens the door to China's literary past, the shorter Columbia anthology remains a top choice.

Delving into the shorter Columbia anthology of traditional Chinese literature feels like embarking on a timeless voyage — one that enriches the mind and spirit by connecting readers to a culture renowned for its poetic beauty, philosophical depth, and narrative richness. Whether for study or pleasure, this anthology is a treasure trove waiting to be explored.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the 'Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature' about?

The 'Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature' is a curated collection of classical Chinese literary works, including poetry, prose, and philosophical texts, that provides readers with an accessible overview of traditional Chinese literature.

Who are the editors of the 'Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature'?

The anthology is edited by Victor H. Mair and Mark Bender, both renowned scholars in Chinese literature and translation.

What time periods does the anthology cover?

The anthology covers a wide range of periods in traditional Chinese literature, from ancient times such as the pre-Qin era through the Tang and Song dynasties, up to the late imperial period.

How does the 'Shorter Columbia Anthology' differ from the full Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature?

The 'Shorter Columbia Anthology' is a condensed version of the full anthology, offering a more concise selection of important texts, making it more accessible for students and general readers.

What types of literary genres are included in the anthology?

The anthology includes a variety of genres such as poetry, essays, philosophical writings, historical narratives, and folk tales, representing the diversity of traditional Chinese literary forms.

Is the anthology suitable for beginners in Chinese literature?

Yes, the anthology is designed to be accessible for beginners, with clear translations, helpful introductions, and contextual notes that aid understanding of classical Chinese texts.

Where can I purchase or access the 'Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature'?

The anthology is available for purchase through major book retailers such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble, and it may also be accessible through academic libraries or university bookstores.

Additional Resources

Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature: An Analytical Review

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature stands as a significant academic resource that compiles a rich tapestry of Chinese literary heritage into a more accessible format. It offers readers a carefully curated selection of works that span centuries of China's literary evolution, from ancient poetry and philosophical texts to classical prose and drama. This anthology is particularly valuable for students, scholars, and general readers seeking a comprehensive yet concise introduction to the traditional Chinese literary canon without the overwhelming breadth of larger collections.

Contextualizing the Shorter Columbia Anthology

The Shorter Columbia Anthology is an abridged version of the more extensive Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature. While the original anthology is known for its exhaustive scope, the shorter edition aims to balance depth and brevity, making it a practical choice for academic courses and personal study alike. Edited by respected sinologists, this collection embodies a scholarly rigor that ensures authenticity and cultural accuracy, while also providing helpful annotations and contextual introductions.

Scope and Selection Criteria

This anthology's editorial approach emphasizes diversity across genres and historical periods. It features poetry from the Classical and Tang dynasties, philosophical excerpts from Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist traditions, and selections of narrative prose such as historical anecdotes and early fiction. The editors prioritize works that have not only literary merit but also cultural significance, allowing readers to trace the evolution of Chinese thought and aesthetics.

The shorter format necessarily limits the number of texts included, which means some notable works are condensed or omitted. However, the chosen pieces provide a representative overview, enabling readers to grasp the thematic and stylistic shifts that characterize traditional Chinese literature.

Features and Academic Value

One of the standout features of the shorter Columbia anthology is its bilingual presentation. Texts are provided in the original Classical Chinese alongside carefully crafted English translations. This dual-language format is invaluable for students of Chinese literature and language, as it facilitates close textual analysis and comparison. The translations aim to preserve the poetic and rhetorical nuances of the originals, an essential consideration given the challenges of rendering Chinese literary aesthetics into English.

The anthology is supplemented by detailed footnotes and introductions that contextualize each selection within its historical and cultural milieu. These scholarly apparatuses help demystify references, allusions, and linguistic subtleties that might otherwise be inaccessible to non-expert readers. Furthermore, the editors incorporate discussions on literary forms and conventions, such as the regulated verse (lǜshi) or the shi poetry style, enhancing the educational utility of the volume.

Comparative Insights: Shorter vs. Full Columbia Anthology

Compared to the full Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature, the shorter edition is more user-friendly for those new to the subject or constrained by time. The full anthology spans over a thousand pages and includes a broader spectrum of works, some of which are highly specialized or esoteric. In contrast, the shorter version hones in on canonical texts and widely studied pieces, making it an excellent introductory resource.

However, advanced scholars might find the shorter anthology's limited scope less satisfying for deep research or comprehensive literary analysis. The full anthology's extensive breadth and critical commentary provide a richer reservoir for specialized inquiry.

Engagement with Key Literary Traditions

The anthology provides a multifaceted view of traditional Chinese literature by engaging with its foundational traditions.

Classical Poetry and its Evolution

Poetry occupies a central place in the anthology, with selections illustrating the evolution from the Book of Songs (Shi Jing) to Tang dynasty masterpieces. The anthology traces stylistic developments, such as the shift from folk-inspired verses to highly refined court poetry, highlighting poets like Li Bai and Du Fu. The inclusion of these works allows readers to appreciate the interplay between personal expression and formal constraints characteristic of Chinese poetics.

Philosophical and Religious Texts

Philosophical excerpts from Confucian classics, Daoist writings, and Buddhist sutras offer insights into the ethical and metaphysical frameworks that permeate traditional Chinese thought. These texts are essential for understanding the cultural and intellectual backdrop against which literary works were produced. The anthology's presentation emphasizes the interconnectedness of literature and philosophy in the Chinese tradition, a feature often underappreciated in Western literary anthologies.

Prose and Narrative Forms

Narrative selections include historical anecdotes, parables, and early fictional stories. These prose texts provide a window into societal values, folklore, and narrative techniques. The anthology's coverage of prose enriches the literary panorama, demonstrating that traditional Chinese literature encompasses more than poetry and philosophy.

Practical Applications and Audience

The shorter Columbia anthology is widely adopted in university courses on Chinese literature, comparative literature, and East Asian studies. Its balanced content and scholarly presentation make it suitable for undergraduate and graduate students alike. Additionally, the anthology serves as a reliable reference for translators, historians, and anyone interested in the cultural heritage of China.

For educators, the anthology's structure facilitates thematic teaching, allowing instructors to select sections that align with course objectives. The inclusion of glossaries and indexes further supports its use as a pedagogical tool.

Pros and Cons

- **Pros:** Concise yet comprehensive, bilingual presentation, scholarly annotations, diverse literary genres, accessible to non-specialists.
- **Cons:** Limited scope compared to the full anthology, some omissions of lesser-known but valuable texts, translations may sometimes favor clarity over poetic nuance.

Conclusion

The shorter Columbia anthology of traditional Chinese literature successfully bridges the gap between exhaustive scholarly collections and accessible literary introductions. By presenting a thoughtfully selected range of texts with rigorous commentary and bilingual format, it invites readers into the rich world of Chinese literary tradition. While no anthology can capture the full complexity of centuries of literature, this volume provides a solid foundation for further exploration and appreciation of one of the world's oldest and most influential literary cultures.

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shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature Victor H. Mair, 1994 Brings together fiction, poetry, drama, folk stories, elegies, letters, travelogues, criticism and theory. It emphasizes the distinctive features of Chinese literature through the ages by means of its topical arrangement.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature Victor H. Mair, 1994 Complete with an introduction tracing the history of Chinese writing, this collection covers a diverse range of genres, from fiction, poetry and drama to folk stories, letters and travelogues. The topical arrangement of the selections brings out distinctive characteristics of this vast canon.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: The Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature Victor H. Mair, 2001-01-03 With its fresh translations by newer voices in the field, its broad scope, and its flowing style, this anthology places the immense riches of Chinese literature within easy reach. Ranging from the beginnings to 1919, this abridged version of The Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature retains all the characteristics of the original. In putting together these selections Victor H. Mair interprets literature very broadly to include not just literary fiction, poetry, and drama, but folk and popular literature, lyrics and arias, elegies and rhapsodies, biographies, autobiographies and memoirs, letters, criticism and theory, and travelogues and jokes.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Chinese Literature: A Very Short Introduction Sabina Knight, 2012-02-03 Perhaps nowhere else has literature been as conscious a collective endeavor as in China, and China's survival over three thousand years may owe more to its literary traditions than to its political history. This Very Short Introduction tells the story

of Chinese literature from antiquity to the present, focusing on the key role literary culture played in supporting social and political concerns. Embracing traditional Chinese understandings of literature as encompassing history and philosophy as well as poetry and poetics, storytelling, drama, and the novel, Sabina Knight discusses the philosophical foundations of literary culture as well as literature's power to address historical trauma and cultivate moral and sensual passions. From ancient historical records through the modernization and globalization of Chinese literature, Knight draws on lively examples to underscore the close relationship between ethics and aesthetics, as well as the diversity of Chinese thought. Knight also illuminates the role of elite patronage; the ways literature has served the interests of specific groups; and questions of canonization, language, nationalism, and cross-cultural understanding. The book includes Chinese characters for names, titles, and key terms.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: The Columbia History of Chinese Literature Victor H. Mair, 2001 Begins with the linguistic and intellectual foundations of Chinese literature and moves successively through verse, prose, fiction, drama, and commentary and criticism; it then closes with popular and peripheral manifestations. A special feature is the focus on such contextual subjects as the history of popular culture, the effect of religion upon literature, the role of women, and relationships with non-Sinitic languages and peoples.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Hawai'i Reader in Traditional Chinese Culture Victor H. Mair, Nancy Shatzman Steinhardt, Paul R. Goldin, 2005-01-31 The Hawai'i Reader in Traditional Chinese Culture is a collection of more than ninety primary sources—all but a few of which were translated specifically for this volume—of cultural significance from the Bronze Age to the turn of the twentieth century. They take into account virtually every aspect of traditional culture, including sources from the non-Sinitic ethnic minorities.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Chinese Lives: The People Who Made a Civilization Victor H. Mair, Sanping Chen, Frances Wood, 2013-05-01 3000 years of Chinese history presented through the lives of ninety-six illustrious participants from all periods and all parts of the country China is the most populous country on earth, with the longest history of any modern nation. Here, the full range of Chinese cultural and scientific achievements, as well as its military conquests, wars, rebellions, and political and philosophical movements, are told through the eyes of real people who created or were involved in them. The subjects include emperors and empresses, concubines, officials and political figures, rebels, exiles, philosophers, writers and poets, artists, musicians, scientists, military leaders, and committed pacifists. From Fu Hao, an early warrior lady of the thirteenth century BC, to the late twentieth-century leader Deng Xiaoping, their careers, achievements, misdeeds, disasters, punishments, ideas and love stories make this an unforgettable read. Illustrated with portraits, paintings, written documents, bronzes, sculptures, and location maps, and written in an authoritative yet accessible style, Chinese Lives provides the perfect introduction to China's history and her peoples.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Tamil Love Poetry Martha Ann Selby, 2011-06-07 Dating from the early decades of the third century C.E., the Ainkurunuru is believed to be the world's earliest anthology of classical Tamil love poetry. Commissioned by a Cera-dynasty king and composed by five masterful poets, the anthology illustrates the five landscapes of reciprocal love: jealous quarreling, anxious waiting and lamentation, clandestine love before marriage, elopement and love in separation, and patient waiting after marriage. Despite its centrality to literary and intellectual traditions, the Ainkurunuru remains relatively unknown beyond specialists. Martha Ann Selby, well-known translator of classical Indian poetry and literature, takes the bold step of opening this anthology to all readers, presenting crystalline translations of 500 poems dense with natural imagery and early examples of South Indian culture. Because of their form's short length, the anthology's five authors rely on double entendre and sophisticated techniques of suggestion, giving their poems an almost haikulike feel. Groups of verse center on one unique figure, in some cases an object or an animal, in others a line of direct address or a specific conversation or situation. Selby introduces each section with a biographical sketch of the poet and the conventions at work within the landscape. She then incorporates notes explaining shifting

contexts. Excerpt: He has gone off all by himself beyond the wastes where tigers used to prowl and the toothbrush trees grow tall, their trunks parched, on the flinty mountains, while the lovely folds of your loins, wide as a chariot's seat, vanish as your circlet worked from gold grows far too large for you.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Monsters, Animals, and Other Worlds Keller Kimbrough, Haruo Shirane, 2018-02-20 *Monsters, Animals, and Other Worlds* is a collection of twenty-five medieval Japanese tales of border crossings and the fantastic, featuring demons, samurai, talking animals, amorous plants, and journeys to supernatural realms. The most comprehensive compendium of short medieval Japanese fiction in English, *Monsters, Animals, and Other Worlds* illuminates a rich world of literary, Buddhist, and visual culture largely unknown today outside of Japan. These stories, called otogizōshi, or Muromachi tales (named after the Muromachi period, 1337 to 1573), date from approximately the fourteenth through seventeenth centuries. Often richly illustrated in a painted-scroll format, these vernacular stories frequently express Buddhist beliefs and provide the practical knowledge and moral education required to navigate medieval Japanese society. The otogizōshi represent a major turning point in the history of Japanese literature. They bring together many earlier types of narrative—court tales, military accounts, anecdotes, and stories about the divine origins of shrines and temples—joining book genres with parlor arts and the culture of itinerant storytellers and performers. The works presented here are organized into three thematically overlapping sections titled, “Monsters, Warriors, and Journeys to Other Worlds,” “Buddhist Tales,” and “Interspecies Affairs.” Each translation is prefaced by a short introduction, and the book features images from the original scroll paintings, illustrated manuscripts, and printed books.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: The Sarashina Diary Sugawara no Takasue no Musume, 2018-03-20 A thousand years ago, a young Japanese girl embarked on a journey from deep in the countryside of eastern Japan to the capital. Forty years later, with the long account of that journey as a foundation, the mature woman skillfully created an autobiography that incorporates many moments of heightened awareness from her long life. Married at age thirty-three, she identified herself as a reader and writer more than as a wife and mother; enthralled by fiction, she bore witness to the dangers of romantic fantasy as well as the enduring consolation of self-expression. This reader's edition streamlines Sonja Arntzen and Moriyuki Itō's acclaimed translation of the *Sarashina Diary* for general readers and classroom use. This translation captures the lyrical richness of the original text while revealing its subtle structure and ironic meaning, highlighting the author's deep concern for Buddhist belief and practice and the juxtaposition of poetic passages and narrative prose. The translators' commentary offers insight into the author's family and world, as well as the style, structure, and textual history of her work.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: The Essential Huainanzi An Li, King of Huainan, 2012-03-20 Compiled in the second century B.C.E, the *Huainanzi* clarifies a crucial period in the development of Chinese conceptions of the cosmos, human nature, and the social order. Outlining all that a modern monarch needs to know, the text emphasizes rigorous self-cultivation and mental discipline, attributing successful rule to a balance of broad knowledge, diligent application, and penetrating wisdom. In 2010, the editors of this volume completed the first complete English-language translation of the *Huainanzi*, opening exciting new pathways in the study of philosophy, Asian studies, political science, and Asian literature. This abridgement contains essential selections from each of the *Huainanzi*'s twenty-one chapters and adds a new introduction and chapter descriptions. The text represents a remarkable synthesis of Daoist classics, such as the *Laozi* and the *Zhuangzi*; works associated with the Confucian tradition, such as the *Changes*, the *Odes*, and the *Documents*; and a range of other foundational philosophical and literary works, from the *Mozi* to the *Hanfeizi*. The abridgement preserves the *Huainanzi*'s special rhetorical features, such as its parallel prose, verse, and unique compositional techniques. For decades, Western scholars overlooked the *Huainanzi*'s sophisticated structure, creative content, and rich historical value, yet all that changed with the translation of the full text. Designed for classroom use and general readers, *The Essential Huainanzi* continues to increase awareness of this brilliant work and

change our understanding of early Chinese history.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: *The Alter Ego Perspectives of Literary Historiography* Min Wang, 2013-07-05 This book mainly discusses about the alter ego perspectives in literary historiography. This comparative analysis of the major Chinese literary histories in China and in the West brings to light the alter ego perspectives of Stephen Owen in literary historiography. The most interesting part of the book will be the interpretation of new notions and perspectives proposed by Stephen Owen, especially in the newly published *The Cambridge History of Chinese Literature* (2010). This book gives a detailed overview about the different stages of writing Chinese literary history and the different modes of literary historiography in China and in the West. Two case studies of Chinese poems are made on the notion of discursive communities and the Cultural Tang. Readers will have a better understanding about the paradigm of literary historiography and the interrelationships between the different modes of literary historiography and the intellectual history.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: *Epic and Other Higher Narratives: Essays in Intercultural Studies* Shankman, Dev, 2010 *Epic and Other Higher Narratives: Essays in Intercultural Studies* is dedicated to the memory of Earl Miner, the distinguished comparatist and scholar of intercultural comparative literature. Beginning with a discussion on theoretical foundations of narratives, it moves on to the nature of narrative in relation to higher narratives. It attempts to define a form of narrative that is distinguished by elevation, dignity, and engaging in a cross-cultural phenomena. It is useful for students of international studies and world literature.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: *Women in Chinese Martial Arts Films of the New Millennium* Ya-chen Chen, 2012-01-01 *Women and Gender in Chinese Martial Arts Films of the New Millennium*, by Ya-chen Chen, is an excavation of underexposed gender issues focusing mainly on contradictory and troubled feminism in the film narratives. In the cinematic world of martial arts films, one can easily find representations of women of Ancient China released from the constraints of patriarchal social order to revel in a dreamlike space of their own. They can develop themselves, protect themselves, and even defeat or conquer men. This world not only frees women from the convention of foot-binding, but it also unbinds them in terms of education, critical thinking, talent, ambition, opportunities to socialize with different men, and the freedom or right to both choose their spouse and decide their own fate. Chen calls this phenomenon Chinese cinematic martial arts feminism. The liberation is never sustaining or complete, however; Chen reveals the presence of a glass ceiling marking the maximal exercise of feminism and women's rights which the patriarchal order is willing to accept. As such, these films are not to be seen as celebrations of feminist liberation, but as enunciations of the patriarchal authority that suffuses Chinese cinematic martial arts feminism. The film narratives under examination include *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (directed by Ang Lee); *Hero* (Zhang Yimou); *House of the Flying Daggers* (Zhang Yimou); *Seven Swords* (Tsui Hark); *The Promise* (Chen Kaige); *The Banquet* (Feng Xiaogang); and *Curse of the Golden Flower* (Zhang Yimou). Chen also touches upon the plots of two of the earliest award-winning Chinese martial arts films, *A Touch of Zen* and *Legend of the Mountain*, both directed by King Hu.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: *Poems and Stories for Overcoming Idleness*, 2024-05-31 *Poems and Stories for Overcoming Idleness* is the first complete translation in any Western language of P'ahan chip, the earliest Korean work of sihwa (C. shihua; "remarks on poetry") and one of the oldest extant Korean sources. The collection was written and compiled by Yi Illo (1152-1220) during the mid-Koryŏ dynasty (918-1392). P'ahan chip features poetry composed in Literary Chinese (the scriptura franca of the premodern East Asian "Sinographic Sphere") by the author and his friends, which included such literary greats as Im Ch'un (dates unknown) and O Sejae (1133-?). P'ahan chip also contains the work of other writers of diverse backgrounds: Chinese master poets, famous Confucian literati, eminent Buddhist masters, erudite Daoist hermits, Koryŏ kings—as well as long-forgotten lower-level officials, unemployed intellectuals,

and rural scholars. The verse compositions are embedded in short narratives by Yi that provide context for the poems. In accordance with the guidelines of the *sihwa*-genre, these narratives focus primarily on matters relating to poetry while touching on a wide array of subjects such as Korean history and customs; the court and government institutions; official procedures and festivals; Koryŏ foreign-policy and diplomacy; books and the circulation of knowledge; calligraphy and painting; Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist thought; the role of women; and scenic spots and famous buildings. The book opens with an extensive introduction by translator Dennis Wuerthner on Yi Illo and P'ahan chip set against the backdrop of literary and historical developments in Korea and sino-centric East Asia and vital issues relating to Koryŏ politics, society, and culture. Wuerthner's comprehensive, thought-provoking study is followed by a copiously annotated translation of this important Korean classic.

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Johannes D. Kaminski, 2024-06-07 This book considers the contemporary political formula of the "Chinese Dream" in the light of the treatment of dreams in Chinese literary history since antiquity. Sinic literary and philosophical texts document an extensive spectrum of dream possibilities: starting with Zhuangzi's eminent butterfly dream, an early example of the inversion of the dreamer's reality, through to confusing visions of the spiritual realm. In classical dramas, novels, and ghost stories, dreams see the earthly realm enter into conflict with higher realms of existence. They indulge the dreamer's quest for sensual pleasures, but then spiritual beings relentlessly harvest the dreamers' life energy. Dreams promise spiritual enlightenment – only to abandon the dreamer in a state of utter confusion. In the early twentieth century, traditional dream knowledge is abandoned in favour of Freudian episodes of sexual repression. In this context, the collective national dream emerges as an unexpected vehicle of the pained individual's hope for national rejuvenation.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Found in Transition Yiu-Wai

Chu, 2018-10-16 Presents an updated account of Hong Kong and its culture two decades after its reversion to China. In *Found in Transition*, Yiu-Wai Chu examines the fate of Hong Kong's unique cultural identity in the contexts of both global capitalism and the increasing influence of China. Drawing on recent developments, especially with respect to language, movies, and popular songs as modes of resistance to "Mainlandization" and different forms of censorship, Chu explores the challenges facing Hong Kong twenty years after its reversion to China as a Special Administrative Region. Highlighting locality and hybridity along postcolonial lines of interpretation, he also attempts to imagine the future of Hong Kong by utilizing Hong Kong studies as a method. Chu argues that the study of Hong Kong—the place where the impact of the rise of China is most intensely felt—can shed light on emergent crises in different areas of the world. As such, this book represents a consequential follow-up to the author's *Lost in Transition* and a valuable contribution to international, area, and cultural studies. "This is a wide-ranging and worthy sequel to Chu's *Lost in Transition*. By juxtaposing a series of critical issues—urban development, self-writing, language education, and cultural production, among others—that have confounded those who care deeply about this former British colony, Chu offers his readers an intelligent and sensitive guide to connect and make sense of the various debates, and he places the conundrums Hong Kong faces in the contexts of both the limits of neoliberal capitalism and the "Age of China." — Leo K. Shin, author of *The Making of the Chinese State: Ethnicity and Expansion on the Ming Borderlands*

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History Mark Hijleh, 2018-12-07 How do we explain the globalized musical world in which we find ourselves in the early 21st century and how did we arrive here? This extraordinary book outlines an understanding of the human musical story as an intercultural—and ultimately a transcultural—one, with travel and trade as the primary conditions and catalysts for the ongoing development of musical styles. Starting with the cultural and civilizational precedents that gave rise to the first global trading and travel network in both directions across the Afro-Eurasian Old World Web in the form of the Silk Road, the book proceeds to the rise of al-Andalus and its influence on Europe through the Iberian peninsula before considering the fusion of European, African and indigenous musics that

emerged in the Americas between c1500-1920 as part of Atlantic culture and the New World Web, as well as the concurrent acceleration of globalism in music through European empires and exoticism. The book concludes by examining the musical implications of our current Age of Instantaneous Exchange that technology permits, and by revisiting the question of interculturality and transculturality in music.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Dialect and Nationalism in China, 1860-1960 Gina Anne Tam, 2020-03-05 Analyzes how fangyan (local Chinese languages or dialects) were central to the creation of modern Chinese nationalism.

shorter columbia anthology of traditional chinese literature: Transcultural Poetics Yifeng Sun, Dechao Li, 2023-02-09 This book examines many facets of transcultural poetics in the English translation of Chinese literature from 12 different expert contributors. Translating Chinese literature into English is a special challenge. There is a pressing need to overcome a slew of obstacles to the understanding and appreciation of Chinese literary works by readers in the English-speaking world. Hitherto only intermittent attempts have been made to theorize and explore the exact role of the translator as a cultural and aesthetic mediator informed by cross-cultural knowledge, awareness, and sensitivity. Given the complexity of literary translation, sophisticated poetics of translation in terms of literary value and aesthetic taste needs to be developed and elaborated more fully from a cross-cultural perspective. It is, therefore, necessary to examine attempts to reconcile the desire for authentic transmission of Chinese culture with the need for cultural mediation and appropriation in terms of the production and reception of texts, subject to the multiplicity of constraints, in order to shed new light on the longstanding conundrum of Chinese-English literary translation by addressing Chinese literature in the multiple contexts of nationalism, cross-cultural hybridity, literary untranslatability, the reception of translation, and also world literature. The book will be of great interest to students and scholars of translation studies, Chinese literature, and East Asian studies.

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