Sekandar Leads His Army Against Foor
Sekandar’s Battle Against the Indian Troops
Sekandar Kills Foor
Sekandar Leads His Army to Egypt
Sekandar’s Letter to Qaydahf
The Greeks Capture Qaydahf’s Son
Sekandar Goes as an Envoy to Qaydahf
Qaydahf Gives Sekandar Some Advice
Sekandar Sees a Corpse in the Palace of Topazes
Sekandar Sees the Speaking Tree
Sekandar Visits the Emperor of China
Sekandar Leads the Army to Babylon
Sekandar’s Letter to Arestalis and Arestalis’s Reply
Sekandar’s Letter to His Mother
The Mourning for Sekandar
• (Translated by Seamus Heaney)

• AVICENNA/IBN SINA (ca. 980–1037)
From Mi’raj-nameh
(Translated by Peter Heath)
From the SONG OF ROLAND (11th century)
(Translated by Frederick Goldin)

• PETRUS ALFONSI (1062–after 1116)
The Scholar’s Guide
Prologue
I. The Parable of the Half Friend
II. From The Parable of the Whole Friend
XI. The Parable of the Sword
XII. The Parable of the King and His Storyteller
XIII. The Parable of the Weeping Bitch
(Translated by J. R. Jones and J. E. Keller)

MARIE DE FRANCE (1150?–1200?)
Lais
• Prologue
Lanval
Laustic
• (Translated by R. W. Hanning and J. M. Ferrante)

MEDIEVAL LYRICS
• Boethius, From The Consolation of Philosophy (Book 3, Poem XII)
(Translated by S. J. Tester)
Notker Balbalus, A Hymn to Holy Women
(Translated by Peter Dronke)
Anonymous, The Ruin
• (Translated by Yusef Komunyakaa)
Anonymous, Song of Summer
(Translated by Jan Ziolkowski)
• Ibn Zaydun, From al-Zahra
(Translated by Christopher Middleton and Leticia Garza-Falcon)
• William IX, I'll Write a Verse About Nothing At All
(Translated by Suzanne Akbari)

• Arnaut Daniel, The Art of Love
(Translated by Frederick Goldin)
• Yehuda HaLevi, To Ibn al-Mu‘allim
• Yehuda HaLevi, Lord
(Translated by Peter Cole)
Hildegard of Bingen, • Responsory for the Virgin (Slender branch)
(Translated by Barbara Newman)
The Archpoet, His Confession
(Translated by Helen Waddell)
• Bernart de Ventadorn, When I See the Lark Stretch Out
(Translated by Suzanne Akbari)
Beatrice of Dia, A Lover’s Prize
(Translated by Peter Dronke)
Bertran de Born, In Praise of War
(Translated by Frederick Goldin)
Heinrich von Morungen, The Wound of Love
(Translated by Peter Dronke)
Walther von der Vogelweide, Dancing Girl
(Translated by Michael Sells)
Alfonso X, The Scorpions
(Translated by Peter Dronke)
• Shem Tov Ardutiel, From The Battles of the Pen and Scissors
(Translated by Peter Cole)
Hedwigh of Brabant, The Cult of Love
(Translated by Peter Dronke)
Anonymous, Calvary
Jalaloddin Rumi, Dissolver of Sugar
Jalaloddin Rumi, The Question
Jalaloddin Rumi, An Empty Garden
• Jalaloddin Rumi, Only Breath
(Translated by Coleman Barks)
Guido Guinizzelli, Love Always Repairs to the Noble Heart
(Translated by James J. Wilhelm)
• Guido Cavalcanti, A Lady Asks Me
(Translated by Suzanne Akbari)
Dante,Guido, I Wish
(Translated by James J. Wilhelm)
Dante, Love and the Gentle Heart
(Translated by Dino Cervigni and Edward Vasta)
Alexander the Wild, Strawberry Picking
(Translated by Peter Dronke)
Dafydd ap Gwilym, The Fox
(Translated by Richard Morgan Loomis)
• Hafez, Plant Friendship’s Tree
• Hafez, Thanks Be to God
(Translated by Dick Davis)
Jahan Khatun, Heart, In His Beauty’s Garden
(Translated by Edward Vasta)
Christine de Pizan, I Am Alone, and Alone I Wish To Stay
(Translated by Suzanne Akbari)
THE THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS

Anonymous, Lament of the Virgin
Charles d’Orléans, If You Wish to Sell Your Kisses
(Translated by Sarah Spence)

FARIDODDIN ATTAR (1145–1221)
The Conference of Birds
The Story of Sheikh Sam’an
(Translated by Afkham Darbandi and Dick Davis)

DANTE ALIGHIERI (1265–1321)
The Divine Comedy
■ Inferno
■ From Purgatorio
■ From Paradiso
■ (Translated by Mark Musa)

■ KEBRA NAGAST (14th century)
17. The Glory of Zion
19. How This Book Came to Be Found
20. The Division of the Earth
21. The Queen of the South
22. Tāmrîn, the Merchant
23. How the Merchant Returned to Ethiopia
25. How the Queen Came to Solomon the King
28–29. How Solomon Gave Commandments to the Queen
31. The Sign Which Solomon Gave the Queen
32. How the Queen Brought Forth and Came to Her Own Country
33. How the King of Ethiopia Travelled
34. How the Young Man Arrived in His Mother’s Country
36. How King Solomon Conversed with His Son
45. How Those Who Were Sent Away Made a Plan
48. How They Carried Away Zion
(Translated by E. A. Wallis Budge)

GIOVANNI BOCCACCIO (1313–1375)
The Decameron
Day 1, Story 1
■ Day 2, Story 7
■ Day 4, Story 9
■ Day 10, Story 9
■ Day 10, Story 10
■ (Translated by Wayne Rebhorn)

 GEOFFREY CHAUCER (1340?–1400)
The Canterbury Tales
The General Prologue
The Wife of Bath’s Prologue
The Wife of Bath’s Tale
Introduction to the Pardoner’s Tale
The Pardoner’s Tale
■ (Translated by Sheila Fisher)

CHRISTINE DE PIZAN (ca. 1364–ca. 1431)
The Book of the City of Ladies
1. Here Begins the Book of the City of Ladies
2. The Three Ladies
3. Reason
4. The City
14–19. The Amazons
33. Carmentis
34. Minerva
37–38. On the Good Done by These Women
46. Dido
48. Lavinia
(Translated by Rosalind Brown-Grant)

II. INDIA’S CLASSICAL AGE

VIŚNUŚARMAN (2nd or 3rd centuries)
Pañcatantra
From Book I. The Loss of Friends
Leap and Creep
The Blue Jackal
Forethought, Readywit, and Fatalist

From Book III. Crows and Owls
Mouse-Maid Made Mouse
From Book V. Ill-Considered Action
The Loyal Mungoose
(Translated by Arthur W. Ryder)

CLASSICAL TAMIL LYRIC
(ÇA. 3RD CENTURY)
What She Said [In his country]
What She Said [Forest animals walk there]
What She Said [He is from those mountains]
What She Said [The colors on the elephant’s body]
What Her Girl Friend Said [Near the salt pans . . .]
What He Said [A hen-eagle broods]
What He Said [Her arms have the beauty]
What He Said [Rains in Season]
What Her Girl Friend Said [On the new sand . . .]
What She Said [The round blazing sun]
Seven Said by the Foster Mother
(1) [The way they lay together]
From Marutam, The Lover’s Unfaithfulness, After Marriage
What She Said [In his country]
What Her Girlfriend Asked [From the long fronds]
This World Lives Because Earth’s Bounty
■ Children
■ A Young Warrior
A Mother’s List of Duties
(Translated by A. K. Ramanujan)

KÅLIDÅSA (4th century)
■ Sakuntalā and the Ring of Recollection
(Translated by Barbara Stoler Miller)

CLASSICAL SANSKRIT LYRIC

BHARTRHARI (5th century)
[May I have not been the cloud]
[When she’s out of sight]
[When I knew little]
To His Patron
[A human being]
[As the sun rises and sets]
[For a moment he’s a child]
■ (Translated by Vinay Dharwadker)

THREE WOMEN POETS (5th–8th centuries?)
Vikatanitamba, 572 [As he came to bed the knot fell open of itself]
Bhavakadevi, 646 [At first our bodies knew a perfect oneness]
Vidya, 807 [Good neighbor wife, I beg you]
(Translated by D. H. H. Ingalls)
THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF WORLD LITERATURE

• BANA (early 7th century)
  1166 [The horse rises, stretches its hind legs]
  (Translated by Vinay Dharwadker)
  1174 [The puff of smoke from the forest fire]
  1305 [At evening having warmed himself]
  (Translated by Daniel H. H. Ingalls)

• DHARAMKIRTI (mid-7th century)
  477 [Your union with your lover will be very brief]
  1213 [Never to ask the wicked for favors]
  1731 [There's no one riding ahead of me]
  (Translated by Vinay Dharwadker)

• BHAVABHUTI (8th century)
  598 [And as we talked together softly, secretly]
  (Translated by Daniel H. H. Ingalls)
  753 [A flood of tears blurs my vision]
  783 [My love is married to me]
  1731 [The people in this world who scorn me]
  (Translated by Vinay Dharwadker)

• YOGESVARA (9th century)
  257 [Now the great cloud cat]
  291 [The days are sweet with ripening of sugar cane]
  314 [Now may one prize the peasant houses]
  315 [The fields where sesame has ripened]
  318 [The warmth of their straw borne off by icy winds]
  1163 [The cat has humped her back]
  1312 [When the rain pours down on the decrepit house]
  (Translated by D. H. H. Ingalls)

• MURARI (mid-9th century)
  913 [Is the moonlight nothing but the powder]
  958 [As the moon ages, darkness covers the sky]
  1019 [O pearl free of flaws, publish yourself]
  1526 [My limbs are frail, my voice is weak]
  1585 [I remember this mountain]
  (Translated by Vinay Dharwadker)

• RAJASHEKHARA (late 9th–early 10th century)
  457 [When people see her face]
  336 [Youthfulness inscribes all her parts]
  (Translated by Vinay Dharwadker)
  525 [The damsels of arched eyebrows]
  (Translated by D. H. H. Ingalls)

SOMADEVA (11th century)
Katiśtarisgara
The Red Lotus of Chastity
(Translated by J. A. B. van Buitenen)

III. MEDIEVAL CHINESE LITERATURE

HERMITS, BUDDHISTS, AND DAOISTS

• RUAN JI (210–263)
  Song of My Cares I
  Song of My Cares XXXIII
  Song of My Cares LXVIII
  (Translated by Robert Hendricks)

• LIU YIQING (403–444)
  From A New Account of Tales of the World
  (Translated by Richard B. Mather)

HANSHAN (Cold Mountain) (ca. 600–800)
Whoever reads my poems
(Translated by Robert Hendricks)
A thatched hut
A curtain of pearls
Here we languish
(Translated by Burton Watson)
In my first thirty years of life
(Translated by Gary Snyder)
Wonderful, this road to Cold Mountain
When people see the man of Cold Mountain
High, high from the summit of the peak
(Translated by Burton Watson)
I longed to visit the eastern cliff
On Cold Mountain there's a naked bug
(Translated by Red Pine)
Men ask the way to Cold Mountain
(Translated by Gary Snyder)
My mind is like the autumn moon
So Hanshan writes you these words
Do you have the poems of Hanshan in your house?
(Translated by Burton Watson)

• LITERATURE ABOUT LITERATURE
  • Cao Pi, From A Discourse on Literature
  • Lu Ji, Poetic Exposition on Literature
  • Wang Xizhi, Preface to the Orchid Pavilion Poems
    (Translated by Stephen Owen)

TAO QIAN (365–427)
The Peach Blossom Spring
The Return
(Translated by James Robert Hightower)
Biography of Master Five Willows
(Translated by Stephen Owen)
Substance, Shadow, and Spirit
I. Substance to Shadow
II. Shadow to Substance
III. Spirit's Solution

Returning to the Farm to Dwell
Begging for Food
On Moving House
In the Sixth Month of 408, Fire
Twenty Poems After Drinking Wine
  • Finding Fault with My Sons
On Reading the Seas and Mountain Classic
Elegy
(Translated by James Robert Hightower)

TANG POETRY

WANG WEI (ca. 699–761)
  • Zhongnan Retreat
  In Response to Vice-Magistrate Zhang
  Wang River Collection
  • Preface
  Deer Enclosure
  • Lake Yi
  • Gold Powder Spring
  • White Rock Rapids
  Written on Crossing the Yellow River to Qiinghe
  • While I Was Imprisoned in Puti Monastery
  Farewell
  (Translated by Pauline Yu)

LI BO (701–762)
The Sun Rises and Sets
  • South of the Walls We Fought
  Bring in the Wine
  (Translated by Stephen Owen)
  Question and Answer in the Mountains
  (Translated by Vikram Seth)
  Summer Day in the Mountains
  (Translated by Stephen Owen)
  Drinking Alone with the Moon
  (Translated by Vikram Seth)
  The Hardships of Traveling the Road, I
  Seeing Off Meng Haoran at Yellow Crane Tower, on His Way to Guanling
  (Translated by Paul Kroll)
  • In the Quiet Night
  (Translated by Vikram Seth)
  Sitting Alone by Jingting Mountain
  • A Song on Visiting Heaven's Crone Mountain in a Dream: On Parting
    (Translated by Stephen Owen)

DU FU (712–770)
  • Painted Hawk
    (Translated by Stephen Owen)
    Moonlight Night
  • Spring Prospect
    (Translated by Burton Watson)
    Qiang Village I
  • (Translated by Paul Kroll)
    My Thatched Roof Is Ruined by the Autumn Wind
  • I Stand Alone
Spending the Night in a Tower by the River
(Translated by Stephen Owen)

Thoughts While Travelling at Night
(Translated by Vikram Seth)

Ballad of the Firewood Vendors

Autumn Meditations IV
(Translated by Burton Watson)

YUAN ZHEN (779–831)

A Theory of Heaven

an excursion to the palace at Yoshino

BO JUYI (772–846)

The Song of Lasting Regret
(Translated by Paul Kroll)

[Chen Hong, An Account to Go with the Song of Lasting Pain]

Salt Merchant’s Wife

On My Portrait
(Translated by Stephen Owen)

Last Poem
(Translated by Arthur Waley)

HAN YU (768–824)
The Biography of Tipp O’Hair
(Translated by Elling Eide)

LIU ZONGYUAN (773–819)

A Theory of Heaven
(Translated by Stephen Owen)

LI QINGZHAO (1084–ca. 1151)

The Story of Yingying
(Translated by James Robert Hightower)

Records on Metal and Stone
Afterword

Song Lyrics
To “Southern Song”
To “Free-Spirited Fisherman”
To “Like a Dream”
To “Drunk in the Shadow of Flowering Trees”
To “Spring in Wu-ling”
To “Note After Note”
(Translated by Stephen Owen)

POETRY OF THE HEIAN COURT

SUGAWARA NO MICHIZANE (845–903)
On Looking at the Plum Blossoms on a Moonlit Night
I Stop Practicing the Zither
The Hardships of Professors
Note on My Library
Seeing the Plum Blossoms when Sentenced to Exile
In Exile, Spring Snow
(Translated by Wiebke Denecke)

 COLLECTION OF ANCIENT AND MODERN POEMS (Kokinshū) (ca. 905)

Ki no Tsurayuki, The “Japanese Preface”
(Translated by Laurel Rasplica Rodd)

1. Ariwara no Motokata, [Spring has come]
2. Anonymous, [Waters I cupped my hands to drink]
3. Anonymous, [Where are the promised mists of spring?]
23. Ariwara no Yukihiro, [Spring robe of mist]
24. Minamoto no Muneyuki, [Ever the greens]
25. Ki no Tsurayuki, [My loved one’s robes]
26. Ki no Tsurayuki, [Green threads]
27. Archbishop Henjo, [Their pale green threads]
69. Anonymous, [Oh hills where mists of spring trail]
70. Anonymous, [If saying “stay!” would stop their falling]
71. Anonymous, [It’s their falling without regret I admire—]
handsome
39 Refined and elegant things
40 Insects
68 Things that can’t be compared
71 Rare things
82 Once when her Majesty was in residence
104 Things that are distressing to see
144 Endearingly lovely things
257 Things that give pleasure
329 I have written in this book

* (Translated by Meredith McKinney)

MURASAKI SHIKIBU (978–1014)
The Tale of Genji
  • From Chapter 1. The Paulownia Pavilion
  From Chapter 2. The Broom Tree
  • From Chapter 5. Young Murasaki
  • From Chapter 7. Beneath the Autumn Leaves
  • From Chapter 9. Heart-to-Heart
  From Chapter 12. Suma
  From Chapter 13. Akashi
  From Chapter 25. The Fireflies
  • From Chapter 40. The Law
  • (Translated by Dennis Washburn)

* KAMO NO CHÔMEI (ca. 1155–1216)
Account of my Ten-Foot-Square Hut
(Translated by Anthony Chambers)

YOSHIDA KENKÔ (ca. 1283–1352)
From Essays in Idleness
(Translated by Donald Keene)

THE TALES OF THE HEIKE (14th century)
  • Book One
    The Bells of Gion Monastery
  Book Six
    The Death of Kiyo-mori
  Book Seven
    Tadanori Leaves the Capital
    The Flight from Fukuhara
  Book Nine
    The Attack from the Cliff
  • The Death of Tadanori
  • The Death of Atsumori
  Book Eleven
    The Drowning of the Former Emperor
    The Initiates’ Book
    The Imperial Lady Becomes a Nun
    The Move to Ōhara
    The Death of the Imperial Lady
  • (Translated by Burton Watson)