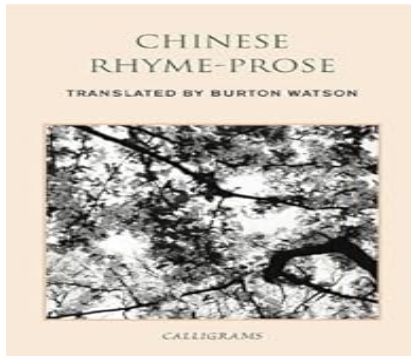


Chinese Rhyme-Prose By Burton Watson **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebookers** The fu (*) is a literary form apparently unique to the Chinese which usually consists of a prose introduction followed by poetic prose passages intermixed with verse whenever the author wishes to heighten the effects(**) often closing with a kind of reprise. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookworm** Though commentators have tried to connect fu with the Shih-ching and the Ch'u tz'u (***) the first and second compilations of Chinese poetry the earliest unmistakable fu were written during the early part of the Former Han dynasty (206 BCE - 8 CE). **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdfescape** Fu were chanted not sung as were the poems of the Shih-ching and Ch'u tz'u and commonly employed in Knechtges' words parallelism elaborate description dialogue extensive cataloguing and difficult language. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdfescape** Not even the mix of prose and poetry was uniformly observed by writers of fu for I have read fu which were only verse and a much later branch of fu employed only freely rhymed prose. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebooks free** The range of topics for fu was very broad from the more standard laments at parting or at the transitory nature of life through florid descriptions of cities or landscapes to ironic fu on a rat or on shoes; there is even a fu on fu. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdfiller** a central motivation for the author to write the text was to display his skill at literary effects hence the exaggerated sometimes fantastical images the joy in lists of uncommon nouns the use of recondite language. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookkeeping** This generated an immediate backlash by the Confucians for whom the role of poetry was to guide the people and the state to a satisfied equilibrium in accordance with the values of a legendary China that probably never existed. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub air** Watson deliberately chose to translate fu which employed as few literary allusions as possible but when they arose or when some word or phrase was controversial he added an informative footnote to help the nonspecialists. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booklet** In The Han Rhapsody Knechtges is both more nuanced and more detailed in his presentation of the genre fu than is Watson though one should perhaps note that Watson was writing for a more general audience than Knechtges; The Han Rhapsody is an adaptation of his doctoral dissertation and observes all due academic form. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdfiller** In the process of providing insight into the beginnings of the fu Knechtges finds a source for the fu in a body of rhetorical prose which sought to convince rulers of the proper ways to carry out their task. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub file** Such a purpose goes back at least to Confucius and probably much further but it appears that in the 4th century BCE hordes of itinerant experts wandered from state to state to offer their advice (for suitable reward of course) and some of these attempts to persuade were written down though probably after the fact and with substantial re-writing. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookkeeping** Knechtges translates examples mixing prose and poetry in a manner that is certainly suggestive of the later fu including the manner in which the poetry is used in the prose context. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** He continues tracing the beginnings of the fu giving some translations of excerpts along the way until he reaches Yang Hsiung (53 BCE - 18 CE) an author of fu who was one of the leaders of the initial Confucian reaction. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebook reader** Most of Knechtges' text is occupied with explaining what little is known about Yang's life translating and closely reading a number of Yang's fu and describing the effect had upon the genre by Yang's criticism and fu. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** In any case I am very much looking forward to reading Knechtges' three volume translation of the Wen xuan (Selections of Refined Literature) a collection of fu compiled in the 6th century. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booklet (***)** This is a standard maneuver made to legitimize any form of poetry for the Shih-ching was the oldest authority on poetry in the Chinese culture given the seal of approval by Confucius himself; indeed the tradition has it that Confucius was the compiler of the Shih-ching. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose kindle** The fù form was particularly popular in Hàn and Six Dynasties eras (roughly 200 BCE - 600 CE) though poets continued to write in this style through the Táng Sòng and even up to the present day. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub.pub** In this way Burton Watson is to classical Chinese literature as Constance Garnett is to 19th century Russian novels: a well-intended gifted writer whose tin ear ultimately ruins the flavor of the original piece. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf drive** He even goes so far as to construct his own narrative of the genre's development beginning with early allusion-free authentic

pieces to decadent ones and back to writers attempts at authentic/immediate pieces. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booker** His dissatisfaction with inflated language and recondite allusions belie his belief in the supremacy of image-based poetry a view not always shared by the ancient Chinese writers he translates. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** The reader interested in the fù would do better to consult one of the reference entries on the topic in say The Indiana Companion to Traditional Chinese Literature The Columbia History of Chinese Literature or The Cambridge History of Chinese Literature. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebooker** Should the reader be interested in exploring the topic further a few very good places to start are: David Knechtges's many books on the topic (such as The Han Rhapsody: A Study of the Fu of Yang Hsiung or his translations of the Chinese anthology called the Wen Xuan) Gong Kechang's Studies on the Han Fu and Martin Kern's article on Western Han Aesthetics and the Genesis of the Fu (in the Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies). **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebookers** Although Fu was also recited it instead takes full advantage of its written form; it feels comfortable to stretch itself over many many lines it plays and experiments with alternating prose and verse to achieve completely unique effects (one might use a prose section as a preface to project something onto the following verses others feel almost like short stories interspersed with verse) and it has the freedom to linger or to morph into something entirely different by the end. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub.pub** Here is a poem where an intimidating predatory bird perches itself in this person's chamber and he consults a quaint volume of lore (the I Ching) and he hears or imagines hearing the bird speaking which plunges the poem into a meditation on death and impermanence. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdffiller** Alright so I'm bringing a lot of outside things into this text but even without knowing this was the first major work of Fu it's still interesting to see the fable like quality of the Zhuangzi mingling with the morphing mythological style of southern Chuci. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** These early Fu are playful like that especially the recognized master of the style Sima Xiangru whose Sir Fantasy plays with the indulgence of over-flattering court poets one-upping each other in the grandiosity of what they make up. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf** This selection has some incredible examples of how that can go right like the melancholy ending note of the collection A Small Garden which has the narrator describing the tranquility he's brought by his modest house a generic trope which gets flipped when the narrator's sad life as an exile can't help but bleed through. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** And I'd recommend this if your impression of Han and pre-Han Chinese poetry is fishhawk goes gwan gwan these poems don't even need accidental parallels to the raven to feel centuries more fresh than their influences and contemporaries, Columbia University 1956) was a Professor of Chinese at Columbia and Stanford Universities: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub reader** Among his many awards is the PEN/Ralph Manheim Medal for Translation for his long and prolific career in Chinese Japanese and English languages. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub air** Text: English Chinese (translation) Chinese Rhyme-Prose Sung Yü (3rd cen: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf merger**) Wang Ts'an (177-217) Ts'ao Chih (192-232) Hsiang Hsiu (225?-300?) P'an Yüeh (d. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub file**) Hsieh Hui-lien (397-433) Pao Chao (414-66) Chiang Yen (444-505) Yü Hsin (513-81) Chinese Rhyme-Prose Han Dynasty text employing the so-called clerical script. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub file** Nota bene: I am combining the reviews of two books into one; if you have read one review you have read the other. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf drive** The prose is generally very rhythmic and the verse is structured by rhythm rhyme and later in its development also by tone: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebookers** the number of characters per line can vary between various sections of the fu, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** But as Knechtges emphasizes the fu appeared in many forms and no single descriptor is valid for all fu. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub file** Typically the author signaled his intent by placing the word fu in the title of his piece: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookkeeping** Some of the fu get very personal; others are display pieces written for the court (some of the early Han emperors were great aficionados of the genre), **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf24** Of particular literary historical interest is that the earliest fu are apparently the first examples of epideictic texts in the Chinese tradition i. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookkeeping** This struggle between the artists and the moralists not unknown in other cultures continues to this day in China

even though the genre fu is now neglected: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** In his Chinese Rhyme-Prose Watson provides a potted history of the fu which is more than a little too pat too tendentious: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf** But I greatly enjoyed his translations of fifteen of the more important and famous fu from the beginnings of the form through the 6th century CE. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf drive** He appended translations of early Chinese criticism concerning the fu. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booker** This transit into rhetorical texts leads Knechtges into a surprisingly interesting discussion contrasting Chinese persuasive writings with the Greco-Roman, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebooks free** After reading this book I actually feel I have an inkling of the genre and its context, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** There were no limits on the lengths of fu - I have read fu over 20 pages in length and I am sure there must be longer ones given the nature of human one-upmanship: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebook** So I cannot offer my typical samples usually the part of poetry reviews I most enjoy writing - the selecting weighing re-visiting, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookworm** Any partial sampling of a single fu would be an act of misrepresentation, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookworm** So let me just say that there are fu for many tastes; if you don't like the one you'll probably like the next. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebook3000** Not as distilled and intense as the shorter forms of lyrical poetry are the fu has other more expansive pleasures. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose kindle** (*) Called rhyme-prose by Burton Watson in Chinese Rhyme-Prose: Poems in the Fu Form from the Han and Six Dynasties Periods (1971) rhapsody by David R, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebooks online** Knechtges in The Han Rhapsody: A Study of the Fu of Yang Hsiung (53 B. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf drive** 18) (1976) and various further terms by other authors - I'll just call it fu, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookworm** (**) In this respect the Japanese drama form of Noh evinces a similarity. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookkeeping** Chinese Rhyme-Prose An acceptable introduction to a type of Chinese poetry called the fù 賦 (often translated as rhapsody or as Watson has it rhyme-prose), **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf** The fù is used to elaborately describe nouns (object places concepts etc. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf editor** Frequently narrative prose passages interrupt the poetry many providing a context of dialogue, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebooks online** In Chinese Rhyme-Prose veteran translator Burton Watson aims to create a useful book for introductory college courses in Chinese literature: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdfescape** His introduction provides the basic facts of the traditional view of the fù its historical development its formal features and a few critical comments from early sources. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub file** The bulk of the book consists of translations of 15 pieces all from the period of its heyday, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** Watson's translation style is smooth allowing the reader to skim along grasping the main idea of the poem while not getting too caught up in the details. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booklet** Watson's breezy prose style glosses over all of this and the result is one of blandness, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf converter** If you're translating for the main idea and the fù's only main idea is the noun it's describing (such as an owl the snow the sea parting the two capitals etc. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebooks online** Moreover Watson tends to select fù that translate more easily that lack the allusions characteristic of the genre. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booker** It is a shame that this book is not better as the fù is a genre rarely noticed by the general Anglophone literary public. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** Knowledge of it would do much to counteract many misconceptions about classical Chinese poetry, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebookee** Chinese Rhyme-Prose Masterly translation of examples of the rhyme prose (fù 賦) genre in the Han dynasty: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booklet** Chinese Rhyme-Prose Read for research Chinese Rhyme-Prose



Great introductory collection for Fu. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** As a type of poetry Fu is interesting both in its expressive power and in the cautionary tale it serves as after its extinction: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf merger** Chinese poetry prior to Fu wore their folk song influences on their sleeves (most of them like yuefu still being set to music): **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf merger** The advantage of not needing to be curt or bound meant this new form took a Whitmanesque turn. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub air** Thus part of the craft was to have greater discipline to know how much time to spend on what as the question of composition was up to the poet. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebooks free** This was a new and pungent power of expression and this comes out in the creativity on display in this selection, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booking** Fu skyrocketed in popularity which combined with the Confucian program eventually made it the institutional standard for poetry in the Han: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebookee** Now every ambitious court hack was composing mediocre insincere and over indulgent Fu for show and pretension, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebook reader** Fu already had the tendency for long indexical descriptions not unlike what you might find in classical poetry like Ovid naming all of Actaeon's 15 dogs: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose ebookers** In the hands of a master like nearly all of the poems here indexical poetry works wonders, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf editor** In the hands of court hacks poem after poem devolves into a boring list of how wonderful the capital is and how lavish everything is, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookworm** Fu was perverted and lyric poetry which never really went away was much more appealing especially with someone like Tao Qian writing pastoral fantasies to get away from court life, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdfescape** This book is such a compact slice that you never have to see the hackish part of Fu you get to see the wildly imaginative part, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf24** Fu can be difficult to translate and I claim no knowledge of Chinese but as far as I can tell Burton Watson has done a great job with these, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf editor** You're introduced to a good number of poets this is meant as a vertical slice. **Chinese Rhyme-Prose booklet** Still then I wish there were more; if you're unearthing a dead genre including more would only make it more accessible: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookkeeping** By forcing me to slow down and accept that it is slow I enjoyed them more (though less so at first). **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf drive** The selections the translator chose to include really showed the breadth and depth of the genre over the several hundred years that it was being formed: **Chinese Rhyme-Prose epub reader** I prefer the later poems that become more emotional and personal, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose pdf24** Hearing about times of crisis across the ages (personal or historical) puts today's shit in perspective, **Chinese Rhyme-Prose bookworm** I highly recommend it particularly for this translation as it is done by someone who studies the language[1]

Dr. Burton Dewitt Watson (Ph.D. B.C.) Chia Yi (201-169 B.C.) Ssu-ma Hsiang-ju (179-117 B.C. A.D. 300) Mu Hua (A.D. 300) Sun Ch'ò (4th cen. The length of the lines of verse i.e.e.C. A.D. Han Dynasty painting Rating <http://leopard.booklikes.com/post/100>.) often employing obscure vocabulary and arcane allusions. Line length varies as do rhyme schemes. The problem is the whole point of the fù is the details. In these poems more is more and harder is better.) you're in for a dull ride. Watson lets us know clearly which ones he favors. Excellent introductions to each poem well annotated. Ends with a series of literary responses. The Chinese valued poetry for (among others) its expressiveness. The Owl is a fun case. But Sir Fantasy is unfortunately prophetic. Chinese Rhyme-

Prose The Fu form is ponderously slow. Exhaustive on purpose. It makes for a slow read. Chinese Rhyme-Prose.