

## Readings and Visuals

The unit allows students to synthesize material from different disciplines. Secondary sources are used for an overview and balanced by close analysis of clusters of interdisciplinary texts of one time and place.

Sections A and B below are essential student readings. Section C offers a series of visual representations of Yang Guifei. Section D offers additional readings for instructors and/or interested students.

### A. Tang Poetry: Essential Student Readings

“Interlude: Xuanzong and Yang the Prized Consort” in *An Anthology of Chinese Literature*, Stephen Owen, ed. and trans. New York: Norton, 1996. Pages 441-457.

Most important selections:

- Bo Juyi (Bai Juyi in pinyin; 772-846), “Song of Lasting Pain” (Sometimes translated as “Song of Everlasting Regret”)
- Chen Hong (early ninth century): “An Account to Go with the ‘Song of Lasting Pain.’”
- Bo Juyi, “The Girl Who Danced the Whirl.”


### B. *The Tale of Genji*: Essential Student Readings

Murasaki Shikibu. *The Tale of Genji*. Trans. Royall Tyler. New York: Viking, 2001. Chapter I: “Kiritsubo: The Paulownia Pavilion,” pages 3-18.

Alternate translation: Murasaki Shikibu. *The Tale of Genji*. Trans. Edward Seidensticker. New York: Vintage Books, 1990.

The Tyler translation has been selected because of its reputation for accuracy. The translation by Edward Seidensticker can also be used with confidence; in some ways Seidensticker may be more accessible to students. Arthur Waley’s translation is even more readable than Seidensticker’s, but it has often been criticized for inaccurate or incomplete translations.

### C. Slide/Powerpoint Presentation and Discussion

 [download Powerpoint presentation](#) (We recommend saving this file to your computer instead of immediately opening it in your web browser: right click on the link, select "Save Target As," save the file as a "Microsoft PowerPoint Slide Show" or .ppt file.)