The Birth of China Seen through Poetry
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The book The Birth of China Seen through Poetry presents a collection of poetry selected by Chan Hong-Mo, a scientist specialized in theoretical particle physics. The book starts with a review of Chinese prehistory and then it presents beautiful poems written in the Spring and Autumn Period (770-745 B.C), The Warring States (475-221 B.C.), the Qin Dynasty (221-206 B.C.), the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D), the Wei, Jin and the Northern and Southern Dynasties (220-624 A.D), The Tang Dynasty (624-907 A.D), the Song and its preceding Five Dynasties (907-1273 A.D). Each section starts with a brief general description of relevant facts happened during the period. It continues with a selection of poetry written by the most famous poets of each period (to name a few, Shijing, Qu Yuan, Cao Cao, Cai Yan, Cao Zhi, Chen Zi’ang, Li Bai, Lo Longji, Du Fu, Du Quiniang, Du Mu, Kan Man, Huang Chao, Wei Zhuang, Li Yu, Su Shi, Li Qunghao, Yue Fei, Xin Qiji). Each poem is accompanied by a short reference to the author and the style of poetry and other interesting information which will make a pleasant reading for those interested in Chinese poetry. Additionally the book offers the text of the original poems as well as a timeline with maps that can help readers to place the poems and even read them in the original language.

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