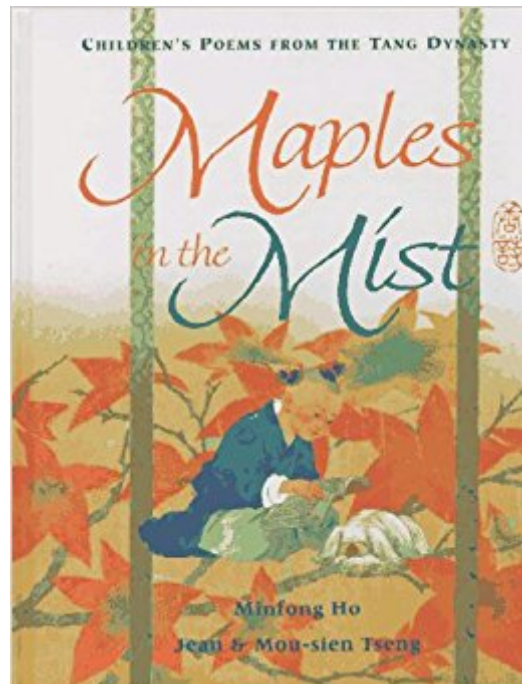




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Maples In The Mist: Poems For Children From The Tang Dynasty



Synopsis

"These Tang dynasty poems, translated from the Chinese, were traditionally memorized by children learning to read. Ho tells readers in the brief, intimate introduction how the book grew out of her desire to pass these vivid four-line verses on to her own children. The poems are immediate and accessible....The dreamlike world of recognition and memory in the watercolors is firmly yoked to the images in the poems."--Kirkus Reviews.

Book Information

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Hardcover: 24 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #506,427 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > Asian > Chinese #1872 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry #124289 inÂ Books > Reference

Customer Reviews

Let's say you're a parent that wants to introduce some multi-ethnic picture books to your kids. Now, you've been reading the recommended reviews and you've heard of this book, "Maples in the Mist". It sounds like a good book. After all it translates the great children's poems of the Tang Dynasty in China. But let's say you're a parent that is worried that maybe a book of classical poetry will bore your little high strung moppets. Perhaps you fear that this book, while filling a need, is potentially less than perfect simply because there are so few like it out there today. Regarding fears, allow me to put your tender mind at rest. "Maples in the Mist" is not only authentic Chinese poetry, not only interesting, not only gorgeous to look at (all thanks to the illustrations of Jean & Mou-sien Tseng), but also an evocative pleasant book that parents will love just as much as their children will. It deserves to belong in every library in the world. Author/translator Minfong Ho begins the book with some explanations. Though she attempted to get her children to love the classical Tang poetry that she grew up with, Ho found that her Sesame Street addled kiddies didn't have the inclination to sit

and memorize the Chinese words. Sensing that perhaps she was going about it all wrong, Ho decided to do an official Chinese to English translation of some of the best Tang poems created with kids in mind. Though this isn't an entirely new idea, few people have translated Tang poetry recently and fewer well. To avoid some of the pitfalls that come with projects like this one, Ho decided not to retain the original rhyme schemes and instead let the poems be translated literally.

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