

詩中有畫，畫中有詩——

王維 (續)

His poems are like paintings,
and his paintings, poetic

— Wang Wei (continued)

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BIOGRAPHIES | 人物誌

名，他身為國家一個宰相，這是有餘了，很大的名譽；智慧不足呢，他沒能防患於未然，沒能令安史之亂消滅於無形，這是沒有智慧。因為沒有智慧，大約就有一種拖泥帶水的性質，有一點猶疑不決的性質，有一點優柔寡斷的性質。因為有這個性質，所以他就不知是去好，還是不去好。

唐明皇從京城逃走的時候，他沒有跟著走。沒有跟著走的原因，或者他以為安史會成功，那麼他還可以保留他的地位；或者他想走也來不及了，所以就沒有走得脫。他對國家沒能盡上他的忠心，這是他下錯了一步棋。

那麼，對友人他又沒有盡義，他不能薦賢，沒有把朋友推薦出來治理國家，或者他也有不得已的情形也不一定。他最好的摯誠之友，很莫逆的一個朋友孟浩然來投靠他，他有機會可以引見於唐明皇，可是當時大約有點妒嫉的思想，也就沒有藉著這個良好的

Wang had the high position of the prime minister, which was a great honor; however, he fell short of wisdom, and therefore, he could not prevent the rebellion from happening. This was because that he lacked wisdom. Lacking wisdom, he was full of indecision and procrastination. Therefore, after the An' rebel army approached, Wang did not follow the emperor on the journey of fleeing (to Sichuan). He did not know what to do then.

Due to his indecisiveness, when the Emperor Ming of Tang fled the capital city, Wang Wei didn't follow him. Maybe it was because he thought the rebellion would succeed and he would be able to maintain his status, or maybe he wanted to flee, but didn't have enough time to flee (before the rebels overtook the capital). Nevertheless, he did not fulfill his duty and act as a loyal subject to his country. This was his "wrong move" on the "chessboard" of life.

Not only did he lack loyalty for his country, he also lacked loyalty for his friends. Maybe it was because of his jealousy that he didn't recommend his friend, Meng Haoran, to the emperor to assist in governing the country. Maybe he had to make this decision. Thus he didn't make the most of his opportunity to recommend his friend.

In his old age, he went into seclusion and pondered over his

機會來推薦他的朋友。對朋友他就沒有什麼義氣。

因為這樣子，所以他在晚年的時候也長齋，也念佛，也閉門思過，也常常去供養三寶。大約知道自己做了很多錯事，要在佛前求懺悔。所以臨終的時候，就向家裏的人要筆墨，寫了一封信告別親戚朋友，這樣子的功夫是不錯。神會大師又因為他有學問，所以請他作六祖的碑銘，誄碑刻銘傳於世。

寫完了告別親友書，他把筆往那兒一扔就往生了，可見他臨終的時候有一點功夫，有一點修行。他的著作有《輞川集》行於世。

不管他對不對，因為沒有大的過錯，所以也讚歎他幾句。所以說：

贊曰

宿植德本 現宰官身
吟詩作畫 稚齡能文
承母遺訓 捨宅寺門
投筆而逝 古今奇人

「宿植德本」：他在前生修行過，種過善根。

「現宰官身」：所以今生能做到丞相。可是做到丞相，還是不會做；不會做嘛，就吟詩作畫，現宰官身。

「吟詩作畫，稚齡能文」：稚齡，就是很小的時候，他就能作文章。文章作得好不好，那又是一回事，不過他肯改過。

「承母遺訓」：他繼承母親的遺訓。

「捨宅寺門」：他的母親教子有方，令他信佛。所以母親過世之後，他把宅子就捨出來做寺院。

「投筆而逝，古今奇人」：能把筆往那兒一放，就圓寂、死了，這也是古今很少有一個奇人。

mistakes. He constantly recited the Buddha's name, and often made offerings to the Triple Jewel. He repented and reformed himself before the Buddha. Venerable Master Shenhui saw that he was learned, so he asked Wang Wei to compose an inscription to be carved on a stone tablet for the Sixth Patriarch.

As he felt his last breath drawing near, he requested a brush and wrote a letter of farewell to his relatives and friends. When he was done, he flung the brush aside and passed away. The fact that he knew the exact time at which he would die proved that he had accumulated a certain level of merit and virtue and reached a certain level of cultivation. He was famous for his *Wangchuan Collection*, which circulated around the world.

Throughout his life, regardless of his actions, he did not make too grave a mistake, so I composed a verse in praise of him.

A Praise Says:

**Cultivating merit and virtue for many lives,
He became a high-ranking officer.
Excelling as a poet and a painter,
He mastered writing early in life.
He obeyed his mother's will,
Donating his family's property to the temple.
Throwing away his brush as he passed on,
He was an outstanding person.**

Commentary:

Cultivating merit and virtue for many lives. He cultivated in his past lives and planted many roots of goodness.

He became a high-ranking officer. In this lifetime he became a prime minister but couldn't live up to the position. Since he was incapable of being a good prime minister, he turned to poetry and painting while being in that position.

Excelling as a poet and a painter, he mastered writing early in life. He could write when he was young; whether he was good at it or not, that is another matter. However, he was willing to correct his faults.

He obeyed his mother's will. He followed his mother's will.

Donating his family's property to the temple. His mother was resourceful and effective in teaching him Buddhism. His mother used correct and resourceful methods in influencing him towards having faith in Buddhism. After she passed away, Wang Wei donated his house to the temple.

Throwing away his brush as he passed on, he was an outstanding person. He passed away after putting down his brush. It's hard to find a person like him throughout history.