

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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劉無塵 英譯

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English Translation by Frank Liu



BIOGRAPHIES | 人物誌

又說偈曰：

唐代震旦王維摩  
佛教家庭修多羅  
智慧超人為右相  
行解並重駕法船  
能詩善畫悠然樂  
文章道德俱灑脫  
預知時至別親友  
談笑往生觀見佛

「唐代震旦王維摩」：他生在唐代的時候。震旦就是中國，在印度來說，中國叫「震旦」。王維摩自己不知慚愧，叫自己「王摩詰」，自比維摩詰居士。那麼是不是維摩詰？夠不夠這個資格呢？這是不能定論的。

「佛教家庭修多羅」：可是他生在很好的家庭，是個佛教家庭，自小就來研究佛教，做佛教一個虔誠的信徒。

「智慧超人為右相」：所以養成他一種很超人

*Another verse goes:*

Wang Mojie was born during the Tang dynasty,  
Into a Buddhist family possessing many Sutras.  
Through his brilliance he became a prime minister,  
Who sailed on a Dharma-boat of "practice and understanding".  
He was a great poet and a skilled painter, happy and care-free.  
With a spirit free of attachment, he wrote effortlessly.  
Foreseeing his death approaching, he took his leave.  
Laughing on his way to pay his respects to the Buddha.

*Commentary:*

**Wang Mojie was born during the Tang dynasty.** Zhendan is the ancient Indian name of China. As a layperson, he was too audacious to call himself "Wang Mojie (Vimalakirti)." Whether he is qualified to be given such a name or not is inconclusive.

**Into a Buddhist family possessing many Sutras.** He was born in a very good family, a Buddhist family. Since young he had already studied the sutras and was a devoted Buddhist.

**Through his brilliance he becomes a prime minister.** His exceptional intelligence is attributed to his immersion in Buddhist

的智慧。右相，他做了右丞相，就是國家的一個宰相，也就是首相。

「行解並重駕法舵」：他明白了，又能實行，能實行又明白，解行並重。也可以說，他是現宰官身來為眾生說法。

「能詩善畫悠然樂」：他又能作詩，又能畫畫，悠然自得，很快樂的。

「文章道德俱灑脫」：他的文章和道德都是很可取、很可觀的，有一點出塵的味道。

「預知時至別親友」：他預先知道死的時候已經到了，所以就寫一封信遍告親友書。寫完了，談笑往生。

「談笑往生覲見佛」：把那個筆往下一放，很高興地就往生了，往生去見阿彌陀佛，去見十方諸佛。他雖然做了一些錯事，但是臨終的境界還算不錯，還算迷途知返，歸去來了。❀

sutras. He became a prime minister of the country, which was the highest position of an official.

**Who sailed on a Dharma-boat of “practice and understanding”.** He understood what he studied, and he put into practice what he understood. He manifested in this life as a prime minister to teach Dharma and transform living beings.

**He was a great poet and an excellent painter, happy and care-free.** Not only did he enjoy writing, but he also enjoyed painting, the practice of which made him feel happy and at ease.

**With a spirit free of attachment, he wrote effortlessly.** Through his moral character and his writings he proved himself to be worthy of appreciation and admiration. Also his writings, including his articles and his poems, had a certain transcendent quality.

**Foreseeing his death approaching, he took his leave.** Knowing the hour of his death was drawing near, he wrote a farewell letter to all his friends and relatives, then passed away with a cheerful heart, exuding relaxation.

**Laughing on his way to pay his respects to the Buddha.** When he put down the brush, he looked very happy and passed away to meet Amitabha Buddha and the Buddhas of the ten directions. Even though he had made some mistakes in his life, he passed away in a good state of mind -- which shows that he must have realized he had gone astray and that he had returned to the correct path. ❀