Li Bo Unkempt

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Chapter 44. “Seeing Off Meng Haoran”

Yellow Crane Tower, seeing off Meng Haoran, who is going to Yangzhou

From Yellow Crane Tower my old friend leaves the west and heads downstream to Yangzhou in the catkin haze of April. The far reflection of a single sail, blue empty hills and gone, only the Yangtze flowing on to the edge of Heaven.  

![Picture of Yellow Crane Tower in 1871](image-url)

Fig. 54. Yellow Crane Tower in 1871.

對應的中文文字

黃鶴樓送孟浩然之廣陵

故人西辭黃鶴樓
煙花三月下揚州
孤帆遠影碧空/山盡
唯見長江天際流

Fig. 54. Yellow Crane Tower in 1871.
In modern Wuhan, overlooking the Yangtze from above its steep south banks, “It is said that the immortal Zi’an 子安 landed here on his yellow crane.”

The Song dynasty poet Lu You 陆游 (1125–1209) remarks:

Li Bo climbed this tower to see off Meng Haoran. He wrote:

The glistening of a journeying sail, blue hills and gone,
You can just see the Yangtze flowing on to the borders of Heaven.

He could still see the mast and sail glistening in the blue hills. If you don’t travel by water quite a lot, you don’t know these things.

It is four hundred miles to Yangzhou, maybe six weeks with the current.