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# Master Ghost Valley's Art of Life Reading (translated)

Luck Scrolls Story and Astrology

# Joseph Yu

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## Why I Wrote This Book

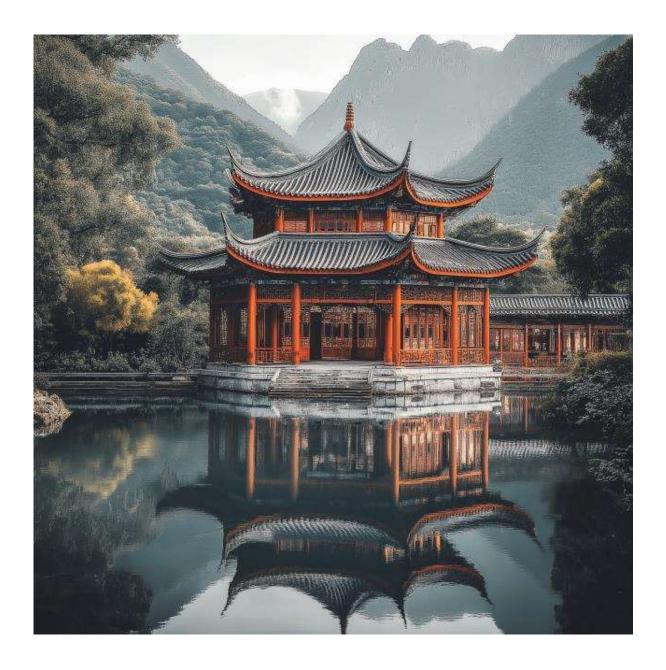
Our book is a modern translation and interpretation of an ancient Chinese classic known as "Ghost Valley Art of Life Reading". The original text was written in verse form in a cryptic style, by an author who was known as "Master Ghost Valley". The text remained was lost for many years until it was rediscovered. It took several scholars, sitting in the garden and drinking cups of wine under the moonlight, while discussing the text, before they eventually figured out that the Master Ghost Valley's book was a form of astrology. In fact, it turned out to be a system using stars and numbered life readings based upon a person's year and hour of birth.

Master Ghost Valley's Art of Life Reading continues to be an immensely popular book in Chinese, supposedly dating back many centuries to the time of Confucious (475BC to 221BC). Many bookshops stock this classic in its original Chinese language format.

There is mystery surrounding the origins of the book and even more mystery surrounding the accuracy of the cryptic style of poetry life readings. Some readers of the original Chinese book have reported that the life readings are a good match for their life, and they love the sense of being aware of their luck. Friends who have read the book often discuss and compare the accuracy of their readings, leading to some lively debates. Unsurprisingly, there are some readers who would say that poetic life readings are open to interpretation and the cryptic nature of the luck versus are such that they can be interpreted to fit many a situation.

In translating this popular classic into English, the aim was to make it available to a wider audience globally, and it would be fascinating to find out about the purported accuracy of the astrology in "Master Ghost Valley's Art of Life Reading." Moreover, it's hoped to make this amazing book accessible to anyone who would pick it up and not just to those who are students or aficionados of Chinese metaphysics, hence a story was added with a fictional Master Ghost Valley to explain some of the concepts that are intrinsic to understanding some of the translation.

Students who have studied with the Feng Shui Research Center would also deepen their appreciation of the wisdom of Chinese metaphysics by applying the knowledge contained in Master Ghost Valley's Art of Life Reading to case studies.



## Why You Should Read This Book

Our book is for fans of astrology who are curious about the original Chinese classic, "Master Ghost Valley Art of Life Reading". To make it more enjoyable and entertaining for you, the reader, we have added a story, a sort of annotation, to explain some of the terms in an easy to grasp manner. You get to enjoy a very good story and learn about some of the concepts that have prevailed in Chinese philosophy and culture for thousands of years.

The story is light-hearted and it comes with the warning that it is a work of fiction. Nevertheless, it serves a purpose of clarifying many of the ideas which you need to understand to make sense of the translated "Master Ghost Valley Art of Life Reading". Therefore, read the story first, it's amusing as well as informative, then you need to use the free online calculator to get your Chinese astrology chart, the Four Pillars of Destiny, to find your life reading number. Here's the link to get your chart if you want to get it now: <a href="https://astro-fengshui.com/charting.html">https://astro-fengshui.com/charting.html</a>.

Once you have found your destiny number, find the chapter for your number to get your life reading. For each numbered life reading, there is a set of poems covering, a person's fundamental luck in life, the person's fortunes in marriage, how his or her children will behave and the individual's eventual fate. The stars offer further influences on a person's luck depending on the year and hour of birth. We have made the translation relevant to today's lifestyle by decoding the cryptic poems and re-writing them as verses in English.

You should read this book to find out if the predictions made by Master Ghost Valley in the 100 life readings are a good reflection of life and luck, for you and your friends.

"Master Ghost Valley Art of Life Reading" is an exciting method of astrology that has stood the test of time and we are delighted to be able to bring this beautiful book translated into English, for you to enjoy.

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## The Story Chapter 1

Crash, bang, crash, bang! The sound of cymbals clapped in the rhythm of the dancing dragon, yet the feet of the dancers were nowhere to be seen. Footprints all over the courtyard were edged with shreds of verdant green grass, wide muddy footprints, not those with light and nimble touch of the dragon dancer. The fragrance of the dew hung heavily in the air. From the east, the first glimpse of the rising sun made the water drops sparkle and nod, as if each drop was wishing a good day to any passers-by treading on the grass.

Master Ghost Valley felt the thudding between his ears and the cold stone against his throbbing cheek. Gently, he opened then closed his eyes to recall the events of the night before. Instead of seeing the scene, a vision of the nine stars of the Big Dipper danced in his imagination. Sneaking a peek with one eye open he noticed that furniture, writing brushes and a block of ink were strewn around the normally meticulously tidy courtyard. His heart was full of the weight of gloominess that pinned him horizontally to the ground. Cautiously, he closed his eyes again, fearful of the images he was about to remember from the night before.

Dressed in black, the thieves were blending into the night. The moon shone a beam through the doorway and the three figures cast an almost indistinguishable shadow onto the floor of the hall. With a battering ram wrapped in hessian, they had knocked the door off its delicate hinges in two swift charges. The dull thuds had not awoken Master Ghost Valley, nor had the sounds disturbed Hoxie, the master's apprentice sleeping in a room off the kitchen on the opposite side of the courtyard.

With gawky movements like puppets being pulled on strings, the shadowy figures entered, bumping into a table, and knocking over a porcelain vase. As the fine pottery smashed into a thousand fragments on the tiled floor, the blue and white shards glinted in the moonlight. The bandits heard a deep voice call out from the back, which meant that they knew where to go to find the mysterious Master Ghost Valley. Without hesitation, the three dark figures burst into the bed chamber, almost tripping up over each other in their hasty greed to find the treasure. They were not seeking pieces of

silver, or fine jade jewellery, or strings of coins. They were seeking the secrets Master Ghost Valley had written in the one hundred scrolls.

Muffled by the black triangles wrapped tightly across their noses and mouths, the bandits expressed a quiet agitation when Master Ghost Valley sat silently in response to their demands to be shown the scrolls. The one hundred scrolls were a great masterpiece. The writings were going to be published in a book. Each scroll was numbered and referred to as number one, number two, number three and so on...

Master Ghost Valley stared up and down at the intruders. He was still a bit drowsy from being rudely woken up, yet he was aware that there was an evil presence. Hiding his fear with a wall of silence was his way of dealing with the hostility in the air. Since the thieves could not elicit a response from the elderly master, they conducted an uninvited search. Opening cupboards and throwing out the contents, then feeling them for the long rolled up shapes of the scrolls. Pulling open drawers and placing their thick set hands to feel into the corners.

Across the courtyard, the kitchen was quiet, the aroma of stir-fry soya sauce hung in the air and crept through the gaps beneath the door to the apprentice's bedroom. Po slept soundly, unaware of the danger that his Master facing, unaware of the ransacking of his adopted home. Equally, the burglars were unaware that Hoxie was even on the property for the apprentice had only arrived at the start of the month.

It was probably only after a few minutes, yet it seemed to be hours later when Master Ghost Valley slowly eased his feet onto the floor and stood up. Feeling brave, he decided to chase the intruders away. In a stern yet quiet voice he told them that they ought to leave straight away. Startled by the command, the thieves wrapped up their bounty in a bundle rushed into the hallway. They dragged a chair behind them to block the path for the old master to chase them. Undeterred, Master Ghost Valley ran after two figures ahead of him. That was the last thing he remembered.

"Sifu, Sifu!"

The half-dazed Master Ghost Valley was awoken from his reverie by the high-pitched voice of his apprentice.

"Sifu, Sifu!" echoed against the paper windows, in a strange rustling sound, as if the windows themselves had been suddenly poked awake.

## The Astrology Chapter 1

#### **Life Destiny Numbers 1-10**

This chapter contains ten poetic life readings for people born in a Jia year. A Jia year is one ending with the digit 4: 1944, 1954,1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004, 2014, 2024, 2034 etc.

These years are Chinese solar years, which means that the year typically starts on February  $4^{th}$  and ends on February  $3^{rd}$ .

If your birthday in is in January or the first three days of February, then you need to look up the previous year as your birth year. For example if you were born in January 1994, you would use 1993.

If you know your time of birth you can use the four pillars calculator to find your destiny number:

Click through the link and input your birth details to get your destiny number.

https://www.astro-fengshui.com/charting.html

Then come back to this chapter to read the poetic life reading for your destiny number, in the range 1-10. If you happen to get a number that is outside this range, and you were born in a year ending in the digit 4, then check the inputs for four pillars calculator. Remember birthdays in January and the first three days of February are counted as the previous year, a year ending in digit 3, e.g. 21<sup>st</sup> January 1994, would count as 1993, so you would look up the Destiny Number for 1993 in the range 91-100.

If you don't know your time of birth, or you are unsure, you can read through all 10 life readings for people born in a Jia year, i.e. a year ending with the digit 4: 1944, 1954,1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004, 2014, 2024, 2034 etc

Perhaps, there is a poetic life reading that matches your life!

If you have studied the Four Pillars of Destiny, you can get further information about the hour star for your destiny in the Appendix for the Hour Stars.

#### Number 1 Jia Jia

Hexagram: Thunder on Thunder



#### Poetic Life Reading

#### Destiny:

You are clever and ambitious, yet lonely. In many ways you are extra-ordinary. Whilst you may gain much knowledge, your achievement is limited. Studying by rote learning works well for you because you have an amazing power for memorizing information. Stepping into middle age, you will become more and more solitary. Nevertheless, in your forties you will meet a lot of helpful people. However, you can only gain social entertainment from your helpful friends rather than reap any financial rewards in business. Your life luck is such that big troubles will become small and small troubles will disappear. Just as well, since you are too hesitant in decision-making. Friends are easily lost and solitude becomes your enjoyment. With indecision as a weakness you miss a lot of opportunities. Although you are proud, you do not like to flatter others. You are open-minded and good causes are where you prefer to spend money. Nobody would describe you as miserly. With high aims in life, no one can stop you from doing what you truly want. Your children have their own life. Eventually, you will be an empty nester. What a pity, this is a semi-monk's life.

**Luck Verses** 

Foundation:

Your wits are so quick, as quick as lightning.

With a loud, clear voice the world finds you frightening.

Unable to settle down you go here and there, wandering.

In a huge, great world, but where are you heading?