

静夜思 Quiet Night Thoughts,
by Li Bai (李白)



Possibly 'the' most famous Chinese poem. Written by Li Bai during the Tang Dynasty.

A literal translation is in brackets. A more readable English version is in blue.

床前明月光

Chuáng qián míng yuè guāng

[bed] [front] [bright] [moon] [light]
Bright moonlight before my bed;

疑是地上霜

Yí shì dìshàng shuāng

[suspect] [is] [ground] [on] [frost]
I suppose there is frost on the ground.

举头望明月

Jǔ tóu wàng míng yuè

[raise] [head] [look] [bright] [moon]
I raise my head to view the bright moon,

低头思故乡

Dī tóu sī gùxiāng

[lower] [head] [think of] [old] [home village]
then lower it, thinking of my home village.

For a straight reading of the poem
click here :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXul1yDwLVk>

床前明月光

疑是地上霜

举头望明月

低头思故乡

Translation with thanks to East Asia Student.
<https://eastasiastudent.net/china/classical/li-bai-night-thoughts/>