

靜夜思 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.

## 牀前明月光

cong4 cin4 ming4 jyut6 gwong1  
Chuáng qián míng yuè guāng

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

## 疑是地上霜

ji4 si6 dei6 soeng5 soeng1  
Yí shì dìshàng shuāng

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

## 舉頭望明月

geoi2 tau4 mong6 ming4 jyut6  
Jǔ tóu wàng míng yuè

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

## 低頭思故鄉

dai1 tau4 si1 gu3 hoeng1  
Dī tóu sī gùxiāng

[lower] [head] [think of] [old] [home village]

For a straight reading of the poem  
click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5eA9eRlhNhc&t=30s>

靜夜思 李白  
床前明月光，  
疑是地上霜。  
舉頭望明月，  
低頭思故鄉。

then lower it, thinking of my home village.

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