



PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Bù	不	no or not
Bù Zhī Ròu Wèi	不知肉味	Can't tell the fragrance of meat
Bùzhī	不知	don't know
chéngyǔ	成语	Saying, idiom
Chūnqiū	春秋	Spring and Autumn Period
Emperor Shun	舜	one of the mythical Five Emperors
Línzī	临淄	Capital of Qi
Lúnyǔ	论语	the Analects of Confucius
Lǔ	鲁	State in present day Shandong
Master Kǒng, Kǒngzi	孔子	Confucius
Qí	齐	neighboring state of Lu
Qīng dynasty	清朝	The Qing Dynasty 1644-1911
Ròu	肉	meat
Sháo	韶乐	An ancient music form of which Confucius was a big fan
Shāndōng	山东	Coastal province in north China
sān	三	Three
Sān Yuè	三月	Three months

wèi	味	the taste of something
Wèi Rú Jī Lèi	味如鸡肋	Tastes like chicken ribs
yuè	月	Month
Yīgǔ Zuòqì	一鼓作气	From episode S2E08, give it all your got in one effort
Zhī	知	to know, the verb
Zhōu Dynasty	周朝	Ancient dynasty that ran from 1046-256 BCE
Zībó	淄博	City in Shandong

The
Chinese
Sayings
Podcast

by Laszlo Montgomery

TERMS REFERENCED IN EPISODE

"Whole Lotta Love"

琴瑟和鸣

S2E9



PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Ài Lán Xuān	艾兰轩	A collection of poems written during the Yuan Dynasty that followed the fall of the Song
Eastern Zhōu Dynasty	东周	The latter half of the Zhou Dynasty. Eastern Zhou ran 770-225 BCE
Gōngxǐ nǐ	恭喜你	Congratulations!
Huìzōng	徽宗	Tragic emperor of the Northern Song, a great artist too
Hángzhōu	杭州	Capital of the Southern Song 1127-1276, called Lin'an back then. Today the capital of Zhejiang Province
Hè	和	to join in the singing or to chime in with others
Hēilóngjiāng	黑龙江	One of the three provinces of Manchuria in the northeast
Jī Míng Gǒu Dào	鸡鸣狗盗	Crow like a cock and Snatch like a dog...use low-handed tricks to get what you want
Jīnshí Lù	金石录	a 30-volume work on ancient Chinese epigraphy credited to Zhao Mingcheng with the assistance of Li Qingzhao
Kāifēng	开封	Capital of the Northern Song (not called Kaifeng back then)
Luk Yu Teahouse	陸羽茶室	Famous restaurant and tea house on Stanley Street in Hong Kong, established in 1933. They always seat me upstairs
Lǐ Qīngzhào	李清照	One of China's greatest poets of Imperial times. She lived from 1084-1155
Míng	鸣	The sound of an animal, a musical sound
Northern Sòng	北宋	The first half of the Song Dynasty that ran from 960 to 1127 when the capital was at Kaifeng
Nánjīng	南京	Later, the capital of the Ming Dynasty and Republic of China, today the capital of Jiangsu Province
Qín	琴	a general term for a stringed instrument, today referred to as a seven stringed gǔqín (古琴)
Qín Sè	琴瑟	The Qín and the Sè

Qín Sè Hè Míng	琴瑟和鸣	The Qin and Se play their sounds together, marital bliss
Shāndōng province	山东省	Northern coastal province, the land of Qi and Lu
Shāng Dynasty	商朝	China's first dynasty (1600-1046 BCE) for which written records exist
Spring & Autumn Period	春秋	First half of the Eastern Zhou, approximately 771-476 BCE
Sè	瑟	a larger instrument with 25-50 strings
Sū Dōngpō	苏东坡 (Sū Shì 苏轼)	Famous Northern Song era statesman, politician, poet, calligrapher, causeway builder and gastronome extraordinaire
Warring States Period	战国	The second half of the Eastern Zhou, 475-221 BCE
Zhào Míngchéng	赵明诚	1081 to 1129, giant in the field of Ancient Chinese epigraphy, husband of Li Qingzhao



TERMS REFERENCED IN EPISODE
"Give It All You've Got"

鼓作气

S2E8

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Chángsháo zhī Zhàn	长勺之战	The Battle of Chang Shao in 684 BCE that saw the underdog Lu defeat the numerically superior Qi Army (thanks to Cao Gui's Yi Gu Zuo Qi strategy)
Chéngyǔ	成语	A Chinese Saying or Idiomatic phrase
Chūn Qiū	春秋	The Spring and Autumn Annals, also the name of the era
Cáo Guì	曹刿	Duke Zhuang's chief counselor
Gǔ	鼓	drum
Later Zhou	后周代	The Later Zhou Dynasty, also known as the Eastern Zhou
Láiwú	莱芜	Laiwu, a city in central Shandong
Lǚ Zhuāng Gōng	鲁庄公	Duke Zhuang of Lu, reigned 693-662 BCE
Mòzǐ	墨子	Founder of Mohism, an early philosopher during the Golden Age in China, also the name of the work credited to him
Qì	气	breath
Qìgōng	气功	Qigong, an ancient Chinese practice that keeps your life forces in balance
Qí Lǚ Liǎng Guó	齐鲁两国	The two states of Qi and Lu (that make up the province of Shandong)
Shāndōng	山东	Coastal province in north China
Yī	一	one
Yī Gǔ Zuò Qì	一鼓作气	With one beat of the drums expend all energies, a burst of energy
Zuò	作	to do or to make
Zuǒ Zhuàn	左传	The Zuo Zhuan, also known as the Commentary of Zuo, a written history of the Spring & Autumn Period



PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
chūzì	出自	derivation, come from, originate from
Duì Niú Tán Qín	对牛弹琴	play a lute to an ox
Eastern Jin	东晋	Second half of Jin Dynasty (317-420) when the capital was at Jiànkāng 建康 Capital of Eastern Jin (modern day Nanjing)
Jù	俱	all, entirely, together
Jù	俱	both, together
Liú Sòng	刘宋	first of the Southern Dynasties
Liú Yìqìng	刘义庆	Liu Song Dynasty scholar, compiled the Shi Shuo Xin Yu
Lántíng Xù	兰亭序	"Preface to the Poems Collected from the Orchid Pavilion"
Nan Bei Chao	南北朝	the Southern and Northern Dynasties Period – 420-589
Qín	琴	a Chinese lute or zither
Rén	人	a person
Rén Qín	人琴	the man and the lute or zither
Rén Qín Jù Wáng	人琴俱亡	The Man and the Zither Have Perished
Shào Xīng	绍兴	City in Zhejiang famous for its wine and legacy of scholars
Shìshuō Xīnyǔ	世说新语	A New Account of the Tales of the World compiled by Liu Yiqing
Shū Shèng	书圣	the Saint of calligraphy (Wang Xizhi)
Tàizōng emperor	唐太宗	co-founder of the Tang Dynasty, a.k.a. Li Shimin

wáng	亡	to die, perish
Wáng Huīzhī	王徽之	Older brother of Wang Xianzhi
Wáng Xiànzhī	王献之	Younger son of Wang Xizhi and his equal in calligraphy
Zhèjiāng Province	浙江省	Rich coastal province

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TERMS REFERENCED IN EPISODE

"I Love You Man!"

高山流水

S2E6



PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Chéngyǔ	成语	Chinese saying or idiomatic expression
Chǔ	楚国	Another Zhou Dynasty State centered around Hubei
Duì Niú Tán Qín	对牛弹琴	playing a zither to an ox (cast pearls before swine)
Gāo	高	tall, high or lofty
Gāo shān	高山	lofty mountains
Gāo Shān Liú Shuǐ	高山流水	Lofty Mountains and flowing waters
Gǔzhēng	古筝	Ancient Chinese plucked instrument, over 2500 years old (not the same as a guqin 古琴)
Hanyang	汉阳	one of the tri-cities that makes up the mighty city of Wuhan
Jīn	晋国	Zhou Dynasty State, located mostly in Shanxi
Kǒngzǐ kū Yán Huí	孔子哭颜回	Confucius Crying over the death of Yan Hui, an ancient tune from the Zhou period
Liú	流	to flow
Liú Shuǐ	流水	the flowing waters of a river
Lǚ Bùwéi	吕不韦	291-235 BCE Early Qin high up official, regent to young Qin Shuhuang
Lǚ shì Chūnqiū	吕氏春秋	The Discourses of Lü Buwei
Pípa	琵琶	Another ancient Chinese plucked string instrument
Qín	琴	the zither or lute
Shuǐ	水	water

Shān	山	a mountain
Sìchuān	四川	Province in southwest China, in ancient days, the Kingdom of Shu
Tān Xiǎo Shī Dà	贪小失大	To covet the small and lose the big, pennywise and pound foolish (from previous CSP Episode S1E02)
Yú Bóyá	俞伯牙	Musical Jin official serving in Chu State
Zhōng Zǐqī	钟子期	Music loving woodsman



"A Man of Great Inability"

滥竽充数

S2E5

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Chōng	充	sufficient, full, to pretend or pose as something
chōng nèiháng	充内行	to pretend to be an expert
chōng shù	充数	to make up the necessary number required....
Fùxìng	复姓	two character surnames
Hán Fēi	韩非子	Master Han Fei, philosopher and father of Legalism
King Mǐn (Qí Mǐn Wáng)	齐湣王	Last king of Qi, reigned from 300-284 BCE
King of Qí (Qí Xuān Wáng)	齐宣王	King of the Qi State, reigned 319 to 301 BCE
Làn	滥	to overflow, excessive, indiscriminate
làn yú	滥竽	a Yú player indiscriminately chosen
Làn Yú Chōng Shù	滥竽充数	To indiscriminately choose a Yu player to fill out the orchestra
Línzī	临淄	Ancient capital of Qi
Mr. Nánguō	南郭先生	The star of our episode...a man of great inability
Mèngzǐ	孟子	Mencius, one of the great philosophers
Nèi chǔ shuō shù	内储说书	The section of the Han Feizi from which our Chinese Saying sprang forth
Qín Shǐhuáng	秦始皇	The First Emperor and Qin Dynasty founder
shù	数	number or amount
Shāndōng	山东	Coastal province in the north

Yuán Mù Qiú Yú	缘木求鱼	to climb a tree to catch a fish from Season 1
Yú	竽	a kind of ancient Chinese woodwind instrument with multiple bamboo pipes all attached together
Zībó	淄博	City in Shandong where Linzi was located



PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Ānhuì	安徽	Inland province in China
Chén Kǎigē	陈凯歌	b. 1952, One of the greats from China's "5th Generation" of Film Directors
Chén Píng	陈平	Chancellor during early Western Han
Chǔ	楚国	Chu State or Chu Kingdom
Chǔ Gē	楚歌	songs from Chu or Chu folk songs
Chǔ Hé Hàn Jiè	楚河汉界	Chu River and Han Border
Chǔ-Hàn zhī zhēng	楚汉之争	Chǔ-Hàn Contention, the epic battle between Xiang Yu of Chu vs. Liu Bang of Han
Eastern Zhou	东周	The Eastern Zhou Dynasty 776-256 BCE
Farewell My Concubine	霸王别姬	1993 Film by Chen Kaige starring the late great Leslie Cheung
Gāixià	垓下	Site of final showdown between Liu Bang and Xiang u, present day Sùzhōu (宿州) in Anhui Province
Gē	歌	song
Hàn Dynasty	汉朝	One of the great dynasties of China's past 206 BCE to 220 CE
Hán Xìn	韩信	Liu Bang's main general during the early Western Han
Hóng Canal	鸿沟	Located in Xíngyáng County Henan Province
Hǔběi	湖北	Province located north of Hunan
Hǔnán	湖南	Central province of China
Liú Bāng	刘邦	Ruler of the Han State

Miàn	面	face, to face someone or something, a side of something
Péngchéng	彭城	ancient name of Xuzhou City, Jiangsu Province
Qín	秦	The first imperial dynasty in China 221-206 BCE
Qín Shǐhuáng	秦始皇	First Emperor of China 221-210 BCE
Shāndōng	山东	Coastal province in North China. Not as rich as Zhejiang but not poor either
Shǐ Jì	史记	The Records of the Grand Historian
Sì	四	four
Sì Miàn Chǔ Gē	四面楚歌	Surrounded on four sides with the Song of Chu
Simiàn	四面	four sides
Xiàng Yǔ	项羽	232-202 BCE, Late Qin warlord, fought against Liu Bang for supremacy of China after Qin Shihuang's death
Xiàng Yǔ Běnjì	项羽本纪	The chapter of the Records of the Grand Historian that deals with Xiang Yu
Xiàngqí	象棋	Chinese Chess
Xúzhōu	徐州	fourth largest city in Jiangsu province
Xiān	西安	Known in ancient times as Chang'an, capital of several dynasties
Yú Jī	虞姬	Consort Yu
Zhéjiāng	浙江	Rich coastal province
Zhāng Liáng	张良	Statesman and strategist of the Western Han



"To Play a Lute Like an Ox"

对牛弹琴

S2E3

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Cháběi Chéngyǔ Yánjiū Zhōngxīn	茶杯成语研究中心	The Teacup Media Chengyu Research Center
chéngyǔ	成语	Chinese saying or idiom
Duì	对	to face or towards
Duì Niú Tán Qín	对牛弹琴	To play a lute to an ox
Duìniú	对牛	facing the ox
Eastern Han	东汉	The Eastern Han Dynasty – 25 to 220 CE
Gōngmíng Yí	公明仪	(Surname Gōngmíng) Famous zheng player from the Warring States period
Móu Róng	牟融	Master Móu, Móuzǐ
Móu Róng	牟融	Master Mou, Confucian poet-scholar from the Tang Dynasty
Móuzǐ Lǐhuòlùn	牟子	Master Mou's Treatise on Settling Doubts
Niú	牛	a cow or an ox
Qín	琴	a zither-like instrument of China that has seven strings
Qīng Jiǎo (or Qīng Jué)	清角	An elegant tune from the most ancient days of China (topped the Billboard charts for 18 weeks)
Qū Gāo Hè Guǎ	曲高和寡	If the song is too highbrow, few will appreciate it
Shàng Shū	尚书	Classic of Documents, one of the Five Classics
Shī Jīng	诗经	The Book of Odes or Book of Songs, China's oldest collection of poetry
The Móuzǐ	牟子	An abbreviation for the Móuzǐ Lǐhuòlùn

Tán	弹	to play a stringed musical instrument (a guitar, zither, piano)
tán qín	弹琴	to play a zither or play a lute
Zhou Dynasty	周朝	Ancient dynasty of China – 1046-256 BCE
Zhēng	箏, 古筝	a 21 or 25 stringed instrument, also called a guzhēng



PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Bùjué	不绝	was prolonged
Chéngyǔ	成语	Chinese idiom or Saying
Dào Dé Jīng	道德经	Also known as the Laozi or the Tao Te Ching. One of the three main books of Daoism
Eastern Zhōu Dynasty	东周	The latter part of the Zhou Dynasty
Hán	韩国	One of the Warring States from the Eastern Zhou
Hán É	韩娥	A woman from Han State gifted with beauty and a great singing voice
Hénán	河南	Province in north China
Jiāzhōu Luòshānjī	加州洛杉矶	Los Angeles, California
King Tāng	商汤	Shang Dynasty founder
Liáng	梁	common surname, the beam of a roof
Lièzǐ	列子	The Liezi. The Writings of Master Lie, one of the three main books of Daoism
Línzī	临淄	Qi State capital city, modern day Zibo, Shandong
Lǐ qīng qíngyì zhòng	礼轻情意重	The gift is a mere trifle but carries great affection
Qiān lǐ sòng é máo	千里送鹅毛	A swan feather from one thousand li (miles) away (see CSP episode S1E03)
Qí	齐国	One of the two states that makes up present day Shandong
Rào	绕	to revolve, to coil around
Rào liáng	绕梁	it reverberated among the rafters

Rào Liáng Sān Rì	绕梁三日	The sound reverberated for three days
Ràoliáng	绕梁	of a sound, to reverberate
Shang Dynasty	商朝	First Chinese dynasty in recorded history 1600 – 1046 BCE
Shāndōng	山东	Coastal province in the north of China
Shānxī	山西	Province in north China
Spring and Autumn Period	春秋时代	The first part of the latter part of the Zhou Dynasty
Sān rì	三日	three days
Sān rì bù jué	三日不绝	it didn't stop for three days
Tāng	汤	soup, a surname
Tāng Wèn	汤问	The Questions of Tāng (from the Liezi)
Yú	余	remaining or surplus
Yú Yīn Rào Liáng	余音绕梁	The sound reverberated among the roof beams
Yīn	音	sound
Yōng Mén	雍门	The West gate at the Qi capital Linzi
Zhuāngzǐ	庄子	Written by Master Zhuang. One of the three main books of Daoism

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TERMS REFERENCED IN EPISODE

"Too Rich for My Blood"

曲高和寡

S2E1



PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Chéngyǔ	成语	Chinese Saying or Idiom
Chǔ	楚国	The Chu State, headquartered in Hubei
Cí	词	Often referred to as Lyric Poetry
Duì Chǔ Wáng Wèn	对楚王问	Replying to the Chu King's Questions
Dòngtíng Lake	洞庭湖	Lake in northern Hunan...it divides Hunan from Hubei
Fù	赋	Another kind of poetry combined with prose
Guǎ	寡	few or scant
Gāo	高	high or lofty
Gāo Chǎngōng	高长恭	Gao was a general in the Northern Qi and also a handsome devil
Gǔdài Sìdà Měinán	古代四大美男	the four most handsome men in Ancient China
Hè	和	to join in the singing or to chime in
Kūn fish	鲲	A huge legendary fish which could change into a roc (鹏)
Mílúó River	汨罗江	River in northern Hunan where Qu Yuan drowned himself
Pān Ān	潘安 (也潘岳)	the Western Jin literary great and one of the four good looking guys from ancient China along with.....
Qín	秦国	The Qin State of the Ying Family...they were the ones to defeat all the Warring States
Qū Yuán	屈原	Great poet, patriot and upright official. His suicide in 278BCE inspired the Dragon Boat Festival
Qǔ	曲	song, a kind of sung poetry

Qǔ Gāo Hè Guǎ	曲高和寡	If the tune is too highbrow no one will sing along
Shī	诗	Another kind of poetry
Sòng Yù	宋玉	a handsome official and literary great (too great for his own good perhaps)
Wèi Jiè	卫玠	Jin dynasty official. Fifty women knockin' on his door!
Yáng Chūn Bái Xǔe	阳春白雪	Sunny Spring and White Snow – a big hit from ancient China