

## The Big Chariot

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*Müller Julius Jolly*

tale of two brothers and their vastly different fortunes and experiences in war torn seventeenth century china

first published in 1946 here in one volume is a collection of arthur waley s translations of chinese poetry the book includes some poems from the book of songs and 170 chinese poems more translations and the temple some old translations have been revised and new notes and explanatory material added

the life of george johnston author of the best selling my brother jack was in many ways symbolic of australian post war cultural life he was a complex character dogged by feelings of mediocrity betrayal and failure that he ultimately transformed through the writing of his brilliant trilogy my brother jack clean straw for nothing and a cartload of clay in this award winning biography garry kinnane examines the process by which johnston selected people places and events for this creative transformation in doing so he reveals the reality that lay behind the glamorous outer facade of the life of johnston and his wife the writer charmian clift

scores of poems in incomparable translations by brilliant british sinologist 16 songs of courtship hymn to the fallen ballad of mulan more including many works by the poet po chu i

the book is the volume of the military history of the spring and autumn period and the warring states period among a series of books of deep into china histories the earliest known written records of the history of china date from as early as 1250 bc from the shang dynasty c 1600 1046 bc and the bamboo annals 296 bc describe a xia dynasty c 2070 1600 bc before the shang but no writing is known from the period the shang ruled in the yellow river valley which is commonly held to be the cradle of chinese civilization however neolithic civilizations originated at various cultural centers along both the yellow river and yangtze river these yellow river and yangtze civilizations arose millennia before the shang with thousands of years of continuous history china is one of the world s oldest civilizations and is regarded as one of the cradles of civilization the zhou dynasty 1046 256 bc supplanted the

shang and introduced the concept of the mandate of heaven to justify their rule the central zhou government began to weaken due to external and internal pressures in the 8th century bc and the country eventually splintered into smaller states during the spring and autumn period these states became independent and warred with one another in the following warring states period much of traditional chinese culture literature and philosophy first developed during those troubled times in 221 bc qin shi huang conquered the various warring states and created for himself the title of huangdi or emperor of the qin marking the beginning of imperial china however the oppressive government fell soon after his death and was supplanted by the longer lived han dynasty 206 bc 220 ad successive dynasties developed bureaucratic systems that enabled the emperor to control vast territories directly in the 21 centuries from 206 bc until ad 1912 routine administrative tasks were handled by a special elite of scholar officials young men well versed in calligraphy history literature and philosophy were carefully selected through difficult government examinations china s last dynasty was the qing 1644 1912 which was replaced by the republic of china in 1912 and in the mainland by the people s republic of china in 1949 chinese history has alternated between periods of political unity and peace and periods of war and failed statehood the most recent being the chinese civil war 1927 1949 china was occasionally dominated by steppe peoples most of whom were eventually assimilated into the han chinese culture and population between eras of multiple kingdoms and warlordism chinese dynasties have ruled parts or all of china in some eras control stretched as far as xinjiang and tibet as at present traditional culture and influences from other parts of asia and the western world carried by waves of immigration cultural assimilation expansion and foreign contact form the basis of the modern culture of china

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