

YANGTZE HAIKU

I

Gliding through two banks
of soon-to-be Yangtze past
into the future.

II

Gliding past old town
on both banks of the Yangtze,
Great Gorges rising.

III

Black awning *wupengs*
poling cascading waters
of the old Yangtze.

IV

Calligraphs cascade
terraced hills of ancient towns ...
Cruise ships cutting through.

V

Between cloud layers,
sky ship and red sun streaking
through Middle Kingdom.

VI

Above, the old stone
urges the faltering youth:
“To strive is enough.”

(November 20, 2001)