

## Poems From The Japanese

Joan Baez

The mists rise over  
The still pools at Asuka  
Memory does not  
Pass away so easily

When I went out  
In the Spring meadows  
To gather violets  
I enjoyed myself  
So much that I stayed all night

Though the purity  
Of the moonlight has silenced  
Both nightingale and cricket  
The cuckoo alone  
Sings all the white night

I waited for my lover  
Until I could hear  
In the night the oars of the boat  
Crossing the river of Heaven

In a gust of wind the white dew  
On the autumn grass  
Scatters like a broken necklace