

POSTCARDS OF CHINESE PAINTING FOR BIG LUCK

大吉
祥



金鸡还报晓
常





辟邪吉鸡

魏晋之时，门画由虎改为鸡，鸡成了民间门画辟邪之物。传说鸡为日中鸟，鸡鸣日出，带来光明。

Lucky Rooster Expel Evil Spirits

In the Wei-Jin period, the pattern of the door-picture had changed from tiger to rooster, from then rooster became the symbol of expelling evil things. In the folk legend, rooster is the bird of sun, when it crows, the sun rise and bring people bright.





金鸡啼晓

古代神话传说。《神异经·东荒经》云：“扶桑山有玉鸡。玉鸡鸣则金鸡鸣。金鸡鸣则石鸡鸣，石鸡鸣则天下之鸡悉鸣，潮水应之矣。”

Golden Rooster Herald the Break

The ancient Chinese legend *The Wild East of Spirits Book* said: 'there was a jade rooster living in the Fusang hill, everytime when it crowed, there came with the golden rooster's crow, and then the stone rooster began to crow, finally, all the roosters of the world crowed together like the rising tide.'

金鸡啼晓
石鸡啼晓
天下之鸡悉鸣
潮水应之矣
扶桑山有玉鸡
神异经东荒经云
李中四





雄鸡报时

鸡叫三遍天亮，准确守信。雄鸡司晨，守夜有时。

Rooster Herald the Break
Day breaks after the rooster
crowing for three times. The
rooster herald the morning and
watch the night precisely.





“吉祥鸡图”

人们用鸡来代替传说中的凤凰，赋予鸡吉祥的象征。古代风俗，正月初一叫“鸡日”，取“吉日”的含义。雄鸡啼鸣，预示着太阳的升起和光明的到来。

Lucky Picture of Rooster

Rooster is the substitution for the phoenix which only exist in Chinese legend, which is a symbol of luck. In the ancient tradition, the first day of new year is called the rooster-day that means lucky day. The crow of rooster herald the rising of sun and coming of brightness.





闻鸡起舞

闻鸡起舞，指晋朝名将祖逖立志为国效力与刘琨互相勉励：鸡是指鸡鸣，舞是指舞剑习武。形容有志之士及时奋发自励。

Rising up upon the Crow

The phrase 'rising up upon hearing the crow of rooster to practice sword' came from the story about the famous general Zu Di of Jin Dynasty. He made up his mind to work for his country and encouraged each other with his friend Liu Kun. From then, this phrase signifies that a person of noble aspirations exerts himself in time.



闻鸡起舞
竹报平安
李中书





镇宅吉祥

鸡字谐音“吉”，鸡吃蜈蚣、蝎子等毒虫，所以鸡是吉祥的象征。

Keep Home Lucky and Peaceful

The words rooster and rooster share the same pronunciation in Chinese. What's more, rooster eat poisonous arthropods such like centipede and venom, so it is considered as the symbol of luck in folk.





酉鸡五德

头戴冠者，文也；

足傅距者，武也；

敌在前敢斗者，勇也；

见食相呼者，仁也；

守夜不失时者，信也。

Rooster Has Five Merits

Crest on the head, symbol of culture.

The toes split, symbol of force.

Fearless of fighting, symbol of bravery.

Calling the mates when they have food, symbol of kindness.

Heralding the break on time, symbol of honesty.



德禽吉
作
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酉鸡
五德
头戴冠者，文也；
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敌在前敢斗者，勇也；
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“酉鸡驱邪”

传说姜子牙是酉时出生。古代有些地方习俗，新年写“酉”字贴于门上和写“姜太公在此，百无禁忌”的红纸条有相同的意思。

Rooster Expel Evil Spirit
Jiangziya was born at You-time in Chinese legend. There was a custom in some places that putting a piece of red paper with the word You on the door as well as the phrase 'Jiangtaigong is here, nothing forbidden' was effective either.

牡
雞
司
辰







室上大吉

古人画鸡立于大石之上，“石”与“室”，“鸡”与“吉”谐音，寓意室上大吉。周亮工《书影》云：“中州贵人尤好画大鸡于石，元旦张之，盖北地类呼‘吉’为‘鸡’，俗云：‘室上大吉也’。室上大吉寓意家庭幸福吉祥。”

Big Luck of Home

Chinese ancient people always drew a rooster standing on the big stone. The words stone and room in Chinese share the same pronunciation, so do the words rooster and lucky, which means big luck of home. The book shadow of book written by Lianggong-Zhou said: 'The noble of middle china especially loved to draw big rooster sanding on the stone and put the drawing out on the first day of new year, because the north people pronounce the word luck as rooster.' The phrase big luck of home means happy and lucky family.





“富贵大吉”

牡丹象征富贵，鸡象征吉祥。中国传统喜把两者组成“富贵大吉图”。

Rich and Lucky

Rooster is a symbol of luck while the peony of the prosperity, so people like to compose them into a picture named prosperity and big luck in the Chinese tradition.





鸡有凤仪

《太平御览》云：“黄帝之时，以凤为鸡。”传说中凤凰同鸡一样，区别雌雄主要看有无冠，雄者称凤，有冠；雌者为凰，无冠。

Rooster Looks Like Phoenix
The ancient book *The Peaceful Era* said: The rooster was considered as phoenix in the period of emperor Huang. There is a same way to tell the sex of phoenix and rooster, those one with crest are male phoenix called Feng, while Huang means the female phoenix without crest.





吉鸡报春

鸡毛信，在我国古代常常是信件上黏附鸡毛，表明事物迅急，必须火速处理。这种信件叫做“鸡毛信”。

Lucky Rooster Herald Spring
Ancient Chinese people always stick some rooster's feather on the letter to emphasize the urgency of the message. This kind of letter was called the rooster-feather-letter.





金鸡辟邪

苏州桃花坞有《鸡王镇宅》传统年画，大公鸡口衔毒虫。民间正月初一将此画贴于门上，以辟邪除恶。

Golden rooster expels evil spirits

There is a traditional New-Year picture named king rooster bless the home in Taohuawu, Suzhou, which shows a big rooster fetching poisonous arthropods. On the first day of new year, people put the picture on doors to expel evil spirits.



金鸡辟邪

此鸡，
驱邪，
辟鬼，
除妖，
镇宅，
保家，
平安，
大吉，
大利，
万事如意，
心想事成，
财源广进，
事业有成，
家庭幸福，
社会和谐，
国家富强，
民族振兴，
人民幸福，
生活美好，
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李白吟鸡

唐朝大诗人李白诗曰：“半壁见海日，空中闻天鸡”。

Li Bai's poetry about the Rooster

Libai, the famous poet of Tang dynasty wrote down these verse: 'I saw the sun rising from the sea, on the mean while, the crow of rooster flow to my ear from the higher sky.'



此山陽之間
有一尤
如生特鍾
於小分池
食一松果
作飽飽之
聲不覺時
已過

李白詩
半壁見海日
空中聞天雞
雄鳴報曉
是也
女字
士

雄雞一鳴天下白





中国人视鸡为辟邪、
英勇的象征。鸡
在人视为报晓之物、
鸡之神。

Golden Rooster

Rooster is a symbol of expelling evil spirits, praying for luck, as well as bravery in Chinese. What's more, for the ancient people, *rooster was the lord of* Yin and Yang for it can herald the break.

吉祥鵲 在子生有
物物中
鳴也
人代表
人們困難
信說中
的風風
子鳴
吉祥如
象征
在子生有
物物中
鳴也
人代表
人們困難
信說中
的風風
子鳴
吉祥如
象征



吉祥題