*HIPPO #3*

*“The Poet Du Fu on Tang Dynasty Wars” (Chapter 15, page 381)*

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| **H** | ***H****istorical Context* | This was written during Du Fu’s lifetime (712-770 CE), which is at the end of the Tang Dynasty, when they were in decline and fighting non-stop conflicts that they would ultimately lose.  |
| **I** | ***I****ntended Audience* | He was writing this to the average Chinese peasant (farmer, merchant, artisan) that had to sacrifice food, money (taxes) and their loved ones (sons and daughters) to fuel the non-stop conflicts.  |
| **P** | ***P****urpose* | The purpose was to show Chinese peasants that these conflicts were not patriotic. That they’re sons were not being treated well, but like “chickens and dogs” by their officers. That it is all a waste and it has been going on like this for centuries.  |
| **P** | ***P****oint of View* *(P.O.V.)* | The Poet Du Fu used to write about the beauty of the natural world. But An Lushan’s rebellion caused him to fall into poverty and despair. His writings reflect a man who is at the bottom of society. From that perspective he wrote about the difficulties for the lower classes of Chinese society and the burdens they must bear for Emperor Wu.  |
| **O** | ***O****utside Info.* | The Tang Dynasty is about to fall when this document is written. China will remain in chaos until the rise of the Song Dynasty and the reestablishment of a strong central government.  |