

THE GREATEST REVELATION
IS
STILLNESS.

LAO-TSE



He who understands others
Is learned.
He who knows himself
Is wise.
He who conquers others
Has muscular strength,
He who subdues himself
Is strong.
He who is content
Is wealthy,
He who does not lose
His soul
Will endure.

LAO-TSE ㄗ

He who knows he has enough is rich.

Lao-tzu

There is no need to run outside
for better seeing, . . . Rather
abide at the center of your being; . . .
Search your heart and see . . .

—Lao-tzu

FREEDOM FROM DESIRE
LEADS TO
INWARD PEACE.

LAO-TSE



胡曰從寫於
十竹齋

"Flow with whatever may happen and let your mind be free.
Stay centered by accepting whatever you are doing."
--Chuang-tzu

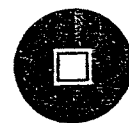
Weapons are the tools of violence;
all decent men detest them.
Weapons are the tools of fear;
a decent man will avoid them
except in the direst necessity
and, if compelled, will use them
only with the utmost restraint.

Peace is his highest value.
If the peace has been shattered,
how can he be content?

His enemies are not demons,
but human beings like himself.
He doesn't wish them personal harm.
Nor does he rejoice in victory.
How could he rejoice in victory
and delight in the slaughter of men?

He enters a battle gravely,
with sorrow and with great compassion,
as if he were attending a funeral."

Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching



In this world there is
Nothing softer or
Thinner than water.
But to compel the
Hard and unyielding,
It has no equal.

That the weak
Overcomes the strong,
That the hard gives
Way to the gentle -
This everyone knows,
Yet no one acts
Accordingly.

LAO-TSE ㄗ

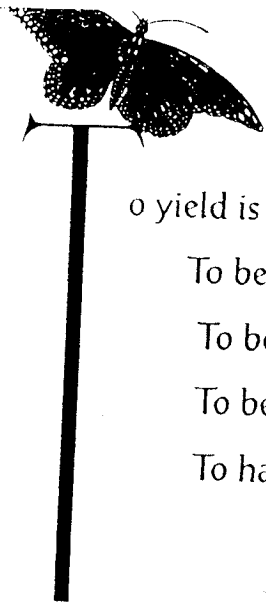
The way to do is to be. (Lao Tzu)

Kindness in words
Creates confidence,
Kindness in thinking
Creates profundness
Kindness in giving
Creates
LOVE.



LAO-TSE

Kindness in words creates confidence, kindness in thinking creates
profundity, and kindness in giving creates love. Lao Tzu.



Who yield is to be preserved whole.
 To be bent is to become straight.
 To be empty is to be full.
 To be worn out is to be renewed.
 To have little is to possess.

—LAO-TZU

What the caterpillar calls the end, the rest of the world calls a butterfly.
 Lao Tsu

Spirituality & Health THE SOUL/BODY CONNECTION™

A Zen master said to a monk, "You must see the universe in your cup." The monk looked into his cup but didn't see the universe there, so he threw the cup away. The Zen master said, "Oh poor cup. We think the cup is too small to hold the universe. Intellectually, we can't see how it could fit. But wherever we go, the whole universe always appears—in a cup, in a window, in a smile, in a word."

Dainin Katagiri
 in *You Have to Say Something: Manifesting Zen Insight*



The softest things in the world overcome the hardest things in the world. —Lao-tzu

The more he gives to others, the more he possesses of his own. —Lao-tzu

To see things in seed, that's genius.
 —Lao Tzu

What the caterpillar calls the end, the rest of the world calls a butterfly.
 - Lao Tsu

SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY



不出戶，知天下——

who loves no one

Without going outside, you may know the whole world!

-Chap. 47, DaoDeJing
 Lao Zi [Lao Tze]

*An integral being
 knows without going
 sees without looking
 and accomplishes
 without doing.*
 —Lao Tzu

The tao that can be told
is not the eternal Tao.
The name that can be named
is not the eternal Name.

The unnamable is the eternally real.
Naming is the origin
of all particular things.

Free from desire, you realize the mystery.
Caught in desire, you see only the
manifestations.

Yet mystery and manifestations
arise from the same source.
This source is called darkness.

Darkness within darkness.
The gateway to all understanding.

Tao Te Ching

*A New English Version,
with Foreword and Notes,
by Stephen Mitchell*

1988

HarperPerennial
A Division of HarperCollinsPublishers

The ways that can be walked are not the eternal Way;
The names that can be named are not the eternal name.
The nameless is the origin of the myriad creatures;
The named is the mother of the myriad creatures.

Therefore,
Always be without desire
in order to observe its wondrous subtleties;
Always have desire
so that you may observe its manifestations.

Both of these derive from the same source;
They have different names but the same designation.

Mystery of mysteries,
The gate of all wonders!

TAO TE CHING

THE CLASSIC BOOK OF INTEGRITY AND THE WAY

LAO TZU

AN ENTIRELY NEW TRANSLATION BASED ON THE
RECENTLY DISCOVERED MA WANG-TUJ MANUSCRIPTS.
Translated, annotated, and with an Afterword
by Victor H. Mair
WOODCUTS BY DAN HEITKAMP

1940

BANTAM BOOKS
NEW YORK • TORONTO • LONDON • SYDNEY • AUCKLAND

1

There are ways but the Way is uncharted;
There are names but not nature in words;
Nameless indeed is the source of creation
But things have a mother and she has a name.

The secret waits for the insight
Of eyes unclouded by longing;
Those who are bound by desire
See only the outward container.

These two come paired but distinct
By their names.
Of all things profound,
Say that their pairing is deepest,
The gate to the root of the world.

PARAPHRASE

None of the ways observed or described by us, in which things happen or events occur, is the Master Way by which nature works. No word or name can disclose nature's deepest secret. Creation began in an event which is not identifiable and therefore has no name. All creatures, nevertheless, can be traced to a common mother or matrix, something to which such words as "mother" or "matrix" can be applied. Nature's secret, the constant, normative Way from which no event is exempt, is disclosed only to those who can be rid of personal wishes or prejudices about it. One comes to grips with it, as it lies hidden beneath appearances, by discarding his own point of view. Prejudiced eyes are stopped cold at the surface.

The secret and its containers are separated only by imagination and abstraction. In nature they are invariably paired. This pairing of meaning, or principle, or life with matter is the most profound feature of the world. It is the clue to the understanding of all existence.

THE WAY OF LIFE

Lao Tzu

A new translation of the
Tao Te Ching
by R. B. BLAKNEY

1955



A MENTOR RELIGIOUS CLASSIC

I

Existence is beyond the power of words

To define:

Terms may be used *

But are none of them absolute.

In the beginning of heaven and earth there were no words,

Words came out of the womb of matter;

And whether a man dispassionately

Sees to the core of life

Or passionately

Sees the surface,

The core and the surface

Are essentially the same,

Words making them seem different

Only to express appearance.

If name be needed, wonder names them both:

From wonder into wonder

Existence opens.

THE WAY OF LIFE

according to Lao-tzu

AN AMERICAN VERSION

BY WITTER BYNNER

1944

CAPRICORN BOOKS NEW YORK

I

The way that can be told

Is not the constant way;

The name that can be named

Is not the constant name.

2 The nameless was the beginning of heaven and earth;

The named was the mother of the myriad creatures.

3 Hence always rid yourself of desires in order to observe its* secrets;

But always allow yourself to have desires in order to observe its manifestations.†

3a These two are the same

But diverge in name as they issue forth.

Being the same they are called mysteries,

Mystery upon mystery --

The gateway of the manifold secrets.

* In translating from the Chinese it is often impossible to avoid using the pronouns 'it' and 'they' and their derivatives without any clear reference, whether these are expressed in the Chinese or only implied. In the present work 'it' used in this way sometimes refers to 'the way' and 'they' to 'the myriad creatures'.

† Superior arable figures refer to notes, mainly of a textual nature, placed at the end of the book.

LAO TZU

TAO TE CHING

TRANSLATED

WITH AN

INTRODUCTION

BY

D. C. LAU

1963

PENGUIN BOOKS

BALTIMORE · MARYLAND

I. *A Way Can Be a Guide*

A way can be a guide, but not a fixed path; names can be given, but not permanent labels. Nonbeing is called the beginning of heaven and earth;

being is called the mother of all things.

Always passionless, thereby observe the subtle; ever intent, thereby observe the apparent.

These two come from the same source but differ in name;

both are considered mysteries.

The mystery of mysteries is the gateway of marvels.

THE ESSENTIAL

TAO

An Initiation

into the Heart of Taoism

Through the Authentic *Tao Te Ching* and the Inner Teachings of *Chuang-tzu*

translated and presented by

THOMAS CLEARY

1992

CASTLE BOOKS