

The Tao that can be expressed is not the eternal Tao.

The mystery of life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced.

Earth, like an oasis in the desert of infinite space....

How cam't? Who is't? What art thou?

The Chinese character for kuan shows the radical sign for "seeing" beside a bird which is probably a heron, and although Needham feels that it may originally have had something to do with watching the flight of birds for omens, I am inclined to think that the root idea was taken from the way in which a heron stands stock-still at the edge of a pool, gazing into the water. It does not seem to be looking for fish, and yet the moment a fish moves it dives. Kuan is, then, simply to observe silently, openly, and without seeking any particular result.

Creative Power.

"I am a butterfly...."

How then did Hui-neng understand Zen? According to him Zen was the 'seeing into one's own Nature'. This is the most significant phrase ever coined in the development of Zen Buddhism.

✓ The sphere of rock on which we live coalesced from the dust of ancient stars. Orbiting round the huge hydrogen furnace of the sun, bathed by radiant energy and solar wind, the globe is white hot and molten beneath the crust: continents ride in a slow dance across its face, ocean floors spread.... The atmospheric mix of gases is entirely different not only from that of nearby planets but from what would be predicted by Earth's own chemistry. This "improbable" state of affairs appears to have arisen alongside the evolution of life, and persisted (with minor fluctuations) despite all possible accidental perturbations of cosmic travel, for perhaps two billion years.

... he is nevertheless aware of irrational forces at work in his life.

Is there concrete all around, or is it in my head?

✓ Acknowledging that the undisturbed conditions of the deciduous forest can be but crudely approximated, Victor E. Shelford has made an effort to present a picture of the situation as it was during the 16th Century. He detailed the ecology in terms of areas of 10 square miles.... The preceding ecological reconstruction can be summarized by noting that in any given 10 square miles of the deciduous forest we could reasonably expect to find 750,000 trees, mostly acorn and nut bearers; 786,000 tree seedlings; abundant herbs and shrubs; literally millions upon millions of invertebrates; 16,000 nesting birds; 20 to 50 predatory owls and hawks; 160,000 to 320,000 mice; upwards of 40,000 squirrels; 200 turkeys; 400 deer; some elk and bison; 3 wolves; 2 pumas; 5 bears; and 30 foxes. Additionally, rabbits, opossums, raccoons, otters, groundhogs, bobcats, Eastern chipmunks, pine voles, short-tailed shrews, bats, beavers, skunks, and weasels would be present in varying numbers.

Natural Response.

"You've got a soft face...."

"I got it a hundred years ago."

Difficult Beginnings. Your hands are full with myriad details that must be secured before you expand further.

Soil-- this curious assembly of inorganic constituents derives originally from rock which, being weathered by rainwater, atmospheric gases, ice, and roots, has slowly broken down into a form in which it can support multitudes of life-forms.... The process of soil formation is slow. At best, even when sediments build up quickly, formation of 30 centimetres may take 50 years. More usually, when new soil is formed from parent rocks, one centimetre may need from 100 to 1,000 years. So to form soil to the depth of this page could take as long as 10,000 years.

There is nothing complex about walking, breathing, and circulating one's blood. Living organisms have developed these functions without thinking about them at all.

✓ The Tao is close at hand, yet people seek it afar.

This is the Spirit that is in my heart, smaller than a grain of rice, or a grain of barley, or a grain of mustard seed... this is the Spirit that is in my heart, greater than the earth, greater than the sky, greater than heaven itself, greater than all these worlds....

O God, I could be bounded in a nutshell, and count myself a king of infinite space-- were it not that I have bad dreams.

"Sometimes you can make a 'd' like this... you wanna see?"

✓ Is not the life of Buddhism the unfolding of the inner spiritual life of the Buddha himself, rather than his exposition of it, which is recorded as the Dharma in Buddhism literature?

Emotions, moods, etc. have a life of their own, and you cannot just will them out of the way....

When the ice age starts to recede, the horsemen start north-- hunting with clubs and spears. At the same time, moving much more slowly, we have the beginning of great tribes of humans following their flocks of goats and sheep as the latter lead them to the best pastures... "Well, Mr. Shepherd... you know it's very dangerous to have such beautiful sheep out here in the wilderness." The shepherd responds, "We've been out in the wilderness for generations and we've had no trouble at all." Night after night thereafter sheep begin to disappear... Finally, there is so much trouble that the shepherd agrees to accept and pay in sheep for the horseman's "protection" and to operate exclusively within the horseman's self claimed land.... No one dared question the horseman's claim that he owned the land on which the horseman said the shepherd was trespassing. The horseman had his club with which to prove he was the power structure of that locale; he stood high above the shepherd and could ride in at speed to strike the shepherd's head with his club. This was how, multimellena ago, 20th Century backateer's "protection" and territorial "ownership" began.

✓ What a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive.

It takes a whole lotta medecine, darlin', for me to pretend that I'm somebody else....

Inexperience. If you will not admit that there is something you must learn, you cannot be taught.

"I live in a different Maine than you."

Reium was asked "How were things before the appearance of the Buddha in the world?" He raised the hossu.  
"How were things after the appearance of the Buddha?" He again raised the hossu.... This raising of  
the hossu was quite a favorite method with many masters to demonstrate the truth of Zen.

The paradox of reaching the summit of being is that you were already there before you left.

... like nature itself... a kind of sublime nonsense... an end in itself without purpose or goal. Restless,  
probing, and grasping minds are completely frustrated by such pointlessness.

"Deeds" to land evolved from deeds of arms... This is how humans came to own land... Thereafter, emperors  
psychologically fortified the cosmic aspect of their awesome power by having priests of the prevailing  
religions sanctify their land claiming.... The land barons discovered the most geographically logical  
trading points for caravaning... One day they're exchanging goods when along comes a troop of armed  
brigands on horseback. The head horseman says, "It's pretty dangerous exchanging valuable things out  
here in the wilderness." The caravaners leader says, "No, we never have any trouble out here. We have  
been doing this for many generations." Then their goods begin to be stolen nightly; and finally the  
merchants agree to accept and pay for "protection". That was the beginning of the walled city. The  
lead baron then gave each of this supporters control of different parts of that city so that each could  
collect his share of "taxes".... This is how we came to what is called, archeologically, the city-state,  
which was to become a very powerful affair. There were two kinds: the agrarian-productivity-exploiting  
type and the trade-route-confluence-exploiting type.

I'll play the orator as well as Nestor, deceive more slyly than Ulysses could, and, like a Sinon take another  
Troy... I can add colors to the chameleon, change shapes with Proteus for advantages, and set the  
murderous Machiavel to school-- Can I do this, and cannot get a crown? Tut, were it farther off, I'll  
pluck it down.

Calculated Waiting. In groups or relationships, all parties are involved in a situation that requires Calculated  
and good natured Waiting. Those involved should realize that the situation is out of any one person's hands.  
Destiny is at work here.

"Mine is together, so make yours together."

"It doesn't have to be together...."

Up until 1500 BC all money was cattle, lambs, goats, pigs-- live money-- that was real life support wealth, wealth you could actually eat.... This gradual alteration of world trading devices from cattle to gold brought about the world-around development of pirates... In order to get their gold off the sea and out of the reach of pirates, the British made deals with the sovereigns of all the countries around the world with whom they traded, by which it was agreed from then on to keep annual accounts of their intertrading and at the end of the year to move the gold from the debtor's bank in London to the creditor's bank in London to balance the accounts... This brought about what is now called the "balance of trade" accounting.

... seeking the bubble reputation, even in the cannon's mouth....

Conflict. There are misunderstanding brought about by basic philosophical differences and they cannot be overcome with forceful measures.

Wu Tao Tzu was one of the greatest painters of China. His last painting, according to legend, was a landscape commissioned by the Emperor for one of the walls of his palace. The artist concealed the complete work with a curtain till the Emperors arrival, then drawing it aside exposed his vast picture. The Emperor gazed with admiration on a marvellous scene: forests, and great mountains, and clouds in immense distances of sky, and men upon the hills, and birds in flight. "Look," said the painter, "in the cave at the foot of the mountain dwells a spirit." He clapped his hands, the door at the caves entrance flew open. "The interior is beautiful beyond words," he continued, "permit me to show the way." So saying he passed within, the gate closed after him, and before the astonished Emperor could speak or move, all had faded to white walls before his eyes, with not a trace of the artist's brush remaining. Wu Tao-Tzu was seen no more.

Indeed, the world is not unlike a vast, shapeless Rorschach blot, which we read according to our inner disposition, in such a way that our interpretations say far more about ourselves than about the blot.

So now go forth again, and manifest what you prefer to believe....

"They can go here, and go la-la-la, and then go back down...."

Collective force. This energy of mass support can be tapped now if you are communicating effectively and if your goals are in accordance with the sentiments of society.

Voice of thunder, speak from the dark of clouds... Voice below, grasshopper voice, speak from the green of plants... So may the earth be beautiful

Sometimes naked, sometimes mad; now as a scholar, now as a fool... Thus they appear on earth-- the free men!

Preferred belief is the symbols or language expressing a person's world view that are chosen because they are appropriate to the nature of the individual.

The international trading became the most profitable of all enterprises, and great land-owners with clear cut kings "deeds" to their land went often to international gold moneylenders. The great land barons underwrote the building of enterprisers ships with their cattle and other real wealth....

Ah, gracious lord, these days are dangerous; virtue is chok'd with foul ambition.

"Maybe they like you."

"They don't. They just want to ask 'Who's winning? Who's winning? Who's winning? Who's winning?' over and over and over again."

The usual answer to the problem of what is good for any or all species is simply survival... But on this assumption the human race had survived, and seemed likely to go on surviving, for perhaps more than a million years before the arrival of modern technology. We must, on this premise, assume that it had acted wisely thus far. We may argue that its life was not highly pleasant, but it is difficult to know what this means. The race was certainly pleased to go on living, for it did so. On the other hand, after a bare two centuries of industrial technology the prospects of human survival are being quite seriously questioned....

Unity. It is of great importance that the need for creating Unity is recognized. The individual human spirit is nourished by a sense of connectedness to the whole of human awareness.

One persons fantasy is a dream; two people sharing a fantasy is reality.

For what we call "nature" is free from a certain kind of scheming and self-importance. The birds and beasts indeed pursue their business of eating and breeding with the utmost devotion. But they do not justify it, they do not pretend that it serves higher ends, or that it makes a significant contribution to the progress of the world.

The building of a ship required that you must have acknowledged power to command all the people in the nation... all the skilled people had to be employed in the building and outfitting of your ship. In addition you had to command all the farmers who produced the food to feed not only themselves but also to feed all those skilled people while they built the ship-- and to feed all your army and all your court. So there was no way you could possibly produce one of these great ships unless you were very very powerful.

...But the doubt and the insecurity remain... this is why he deals so constantly in self-magnification.

"He said he's the boss of the whole wide world, and he's not...."



... Great battles ensued-- waged under the flags of England, France, and Spain-- to determine who would become the supreme master of the world's high seas line of supply. These great nations were simply the operating fronts of behind-the-scenes vastly ambitious individuals who had become so effectively powerful because of their ability to remain invisible while operating behind the national scenery. Always their victories were in the name of some powerful sovereign-ruled country. The real power structures were always the invisible ones behind the visible sovereign powers.... (Because the building of superior fleets of ships involved a complex of materials... large money credits for foreign purchase of these and other critical supplies brought control of sea enterprising into the hands of international bankers.)

The natural world seems a marvel of complexity, requiring a vastly intricate intelligence to create and govern it.

Thou think'st 'tis much that this contentious storm invades us to the skin; so 'tis to thee... but where the great malady is fix'd the lesser is scarce felt.

Demilitarization of the mind is a necessary prerequisite to demilitarization of regions and regimes.

Restrained. There is little that can be accomplished in the external world at this time. Nevertheless, a prospect for ultimate success exists if you can restrain yourself until the situation can accomodate your plan.

Being as it used to be long ago, may I walk  
May it be beautiful before me  
May it be beautiful behind me  
May it be beautiful below me  
May it be beautiful above me  
May it be beautiful all around me  
In beauty it is finished

"Here's a picture \_\_\_\_\_ made with two girls and flowers and the sun-- and you guys draw battleships. I just want to know one thing: why do you guys draw battleships, and the girls draw flowers and things?"  
"We like battleships, and girls don't."

It was the financing of such international voyaging, trading, and individual travel as well as of vaster games of governmental takeovers that built the enormous wealth-controlling fortunes of early European private banking families.

From now on, it is claimed, the organization of life cannot happen, it must be controlled, however intricate the task.

'Tis the time's plague, when madmen lead the blind.

It is useless to attempt to reason a person out of a thing he has never been reasoned into.

✓ Conduct. You may suddenly come face to face with the necessity of becoming truly discriminating in your choice of acquaintances.

✓ Keeping to the main road is easy, but people love to be sidetracked.

"Remember, we were talking about caterpillars... and look?"

This is perhaps what Western man would like himself to be-- a person in total control of himself, analyzed to the ultimate depths of his own unconscious, understood and explained to the last atom of his brain, and to this extent completely mechanized.

If he, compact of jars, grow musical, we shall shortly have discord in the spheres.

Queen Elizabeth I's East India Company's scheme was to have her national navy (and armies) first win mastery of the world's sea-lanes. This advantage would thereafter be exploited by her privately owned enterprise. This scheme became one of the first of such national power bids for establishing and maintaining world-trade supremacy through dominance of the world's high seas, ocean currents, trade winds, critical straits, and only seasonably favorable passages world around line of vital and desirable supplies. All the other world-power-stature individuals who vied for supreme mastery of the world's high seas lines of supply also operated invisibly through monarchs and nations over whom they had sufficient influence. Through such behind the throne influence the influenced nations resources could be politically maneuvered into paying for the building and operation of the navies and armies that would seek to establish and protect their respective privately owned enterprises.

The master: "What do you wish me to do for you?"

Said Kuang, "I came to receive your valuable instructions in the doctrine of the Buddhas."

"This is not to be sought through another."

"My soul is not yet pacified. Pray, master, pacify it."

"Bring your soul here, and I will have it pacified."

"I have sought it these many years, and am still unable to get hold of it!"

"There! It is pacified once for all."

He who wants clear water must go to the fountainhead.

✓  
Prospering. When spring comes to any situation, the enlightened person uses his awareness of this cosmic signal to cultivate the fertile ground presented... The current clarity, like the beginning of spring, lends itself to the initiation of systems that will continue to benefit, even in hard times.... There now exists a harmonious accord between your instincts and the cosmic forces... In general, this time brings peace of mind, which alone creates an all-encompassing atmosphere for success and prosperity.

"Does your Grandpa tell you stories about the olden days, when he used to be your age?"

"Yes... this is the olden days for me."

We have learned to identify ourselves only with the narrow and superficial area of the conscious and the voluntary... Thus it is in the image of this superficial self that we conceive God, though with its capacities vastly enlarged. God is the "other" conscious Self who designs and operates both our own inner processes and all the workings of nature. By his omniscience he attends consciously to every thing at once, and by his omnipotence makes it subject to his will. At first sight this is a fascinating and marvellous conception-- an infinitely conscious mind, concentrated simultaneously on every galaxy and every atom with the entirety of its attention. Yet on second thought the conception is more monstrous than marvellous-- a kind of intellectual elephantiasis, being a colossal magnification and multiplication of the conscious analytical mode of knowledge.

How use doth breed a habit in a man!

Because the world around occurring metals were at the heart of this advance in standards of living for the increasing numbers of humans all around the world, the struggle for mastery of this trade by the invisible, behind the scenes contending world power structures ultimately brought about the breakout of the visible, international World War I.

Stagnation. There is no understanding of what is needed and growth cannot continue... Do not attempt to influence others, for this is not possible. Do not compromise your principles or alter your standards, for there is no end to the chaos and nothing reasonable can be resolved. You will be pulled further and further into multifarious disorder.

The fool doth think he is wise, but the wise man knows himself to be a fool.

Give up learning, and put an end to your troubles.

"They can go here, and go la-la-la, and then go back down...."

Nature is through and through relational, and interference at one point has interminable and unforeseeable effects. The analytic study of these interrelations produces an ever growing accumulation of extremely complicated information, so vast and so complex as to be unwieldy for many practical purposes, especially when quick decisions are needed.. Consequently the progress of technology begins to have the opposite of its intended effect. Instead of simplifying human tasks, it makes them more complicated. No one dares move without consulting an expert. The expert in his turn cannot hope to have mastered more than a small section of the ceaselessly expanding volume of information. But whereas formal scientific knowledge is departmentalized, the world is not, so that the mastery of a single department of knowledge is often as frustrating as a closetful of left shoes. (And) this is not only a problem of dealing with such formally "scientific" questions as endocrinology, soil chemistry, or nuclear fall-out. In a society whose means of production and communication are highly technological, the most ordinary matters of politics, economics, and law become so involved that the individual citizen feels paralyzed.

✓ All day in grey rain hollyhocks follow the sun's invisible road.

The spirit knows its own way, and what we can do is to rid it of all the obstacles our ignorance has piled before it.

The US, the EEC, and Japan import most of their supplies of these key commodities, primarily from politically volatile regions of central and southern Africa.... World military expenditure for 1985 was \$750 billion dollars. The weapons industry is the world's #2 industry after oil.

A form of behavior becomes out-of-date only when something else takes its place, and in order to invent forms of behavior which will make war obsolete, it is a first requirement to believe that such an invention is possible.

✓ Community. Society functions at its best when each member finds security in his place within the social structure. When all members can be gainfully employed, yet have individual initiative, when they can excel in their own craft, and in doing so contribute to the overall goals of society, then there exists a harmony and a sense of Community.... This is because the many work for the one.

"I've been coloring for 200 weeks."

The scientist was first discovering the laws of God, in the faith that the workings of the world could be reformulated into the terms of the word, the reason, and the law which they were obeying. As the hypothesis of God made no difference to the accuracy of his predictions, he began to leave it out, and to consider the world as a machine, something which followed laws with no lawgiver. Lastly, the hypothesis of pre-existing and determinative laws became unnecessary.... In the twentieth century scientists are increasingly becoming aware of the fact that the laws of nature are not discovered but invented.... Just as it is a highly complicated task to drink water with a fork instead of a glass, so the complexity of nature is not innate but a consequence of the instruments used to handle it.

People willingly believe what they wish to be true.

There is no birth-and-death from which one has to escape, nor is there any supreme knowledge after which one has to strive. All the complications past and present, numbering one thousand seven hundred, are not worth the trouble of even describing.

Sovereignty. Here too, you hold the position of Sovereignty, and, if you are kind and unselfish, your relationships will flower.

It is appropriate at this point to do some reviewing of evolutionary changes that had been transpiring in the nature of capitalism...It all starts with the land-based capitalism, a capitalism maintained by whoever seized, successfully defended, and controlled the land-- ergo, owned the land. In land capitalism whoever owned the land, the fertile fields, etc., controlled all the wealth to be made from that land.... Suddenly we had a completely new form of capitalism, which required both the large scale financing and the integration of metals, mines and mine owners, metals refining and shaping into wholesaleable forms, all to be established around the world by the world masters of the great line of supply... This new form of the world power structure's capitalism-- by ownership of the mines and metals working all around the world-- we call the metals and mining capitalism. Whoever owned the mines had incredible power, but never as great as those who controlled the line of their supply. Combining the two, 1) the mines and metals-producing industry and 2) the line of supply, we have the world power structure that operated as the first supranational, world-around-integrated, metals cartels. They were out of reach of the laws of any one country, in a metals cartels capitalism. Combining these two with 3) the absolute need of the large financing and credit at magnitudes rarely affordable by any one individual, we find finance capitalism integrating the world operation.

Why, foolish Lucius, dost thou not perceive that Rome is but a wilderness of tigers?

"The boys make everything they color black... everything in the whole wide world is not black."

Moderation. The predominant forces in the cosmos at this time are in the process of balancing extremes and harmonizing interests. This tendency toward equilibrium and Moderation is a natural urge in the universe. In the terrain of the earth, pinnacles are in the process of wearing down and valleys are filling up. Nature balances itself with plagues, droughts, and cycles of overabundance....Examine your deepest feelings and see if you are harboring any extremes in your expectations or selfish desires in your motivations. Try to moderate any unrealistic ideals.

The most remarkable of their vested powers was that of manufacturing money. The industrial manufacturer could not make goods unless he had the plant, the raw material, and the labor. But the banker, somewhat like the fabled alchemists, could transmit airy nothing into bank-note money, and then, by law, force its acceptance. The lone trader or landholder unsupported by a partnership with law could not fabricate money. But let trader and landholder band in a company, incorporate, then persuade, wheedle or bribe a certain entity called a legislature to grant them a certain bit of paper styled a charter, and lo! They were instantly transformed into money manufacturers.... Playing fast and loose with the money confidingly entrusted to their care by a swarm of depositors... the bank men loaned money to themselves at an absurdly low rate of interest. But for loans of money to all others they demanded a high rate of interest... (thus) dictating, personally and directly, what the supply of the people's money should be.

O time, thou must untangle this, not I; it is too hard a knot for me t'untie.

The architectonic and artificial style of Christianity is nowhere clearer than in the idea of God as the maker of the world, and thus of the world itself as an artifact which has been constructed in accordance with a plan, and which has, therefore, a purpose and an explanation.... For from the standpoint of Taoist philosophy natural forms are not made but grown, and there is a radical difference between the organic and the mechanical. Things which are made, such as houses, furniture, and machines, are an assemblage of parts put together, or shaped, like sculpture, from the outside inwards. But things which grow shape themselves from within outwards.

✓ In Zen there is nothing to explain, nothing to teach, that will add to your knowledge. Unless it grows out of yourself, no knowledge is really of value to you, a borrowed plumage never grows.... Zen calls this "returning to one's own home."

We suggest that existing theories on bird navigation do not fully explain their homing behavior.

"Hey! We're trying to play here...."

Harmonize. Observe your inherent character traits, and listen to your inner voice... You can instill in your body an enthusiasm for life by harmonizing your spirit with the cosmic order.

How dost thou Benedict, the married man?

... In brief, since I do purpose to marry, I will think nothing to any purpose that the world can say against it, and therefore never flout at me for what I have said against it; for man is a giddy thing, and this is my conclusion.

Logically stated, all the opposites and contradictions are united and harmonized into a consistent organic whole. This is a mystery and a miracle, but according to the Zen masters such is being performed every day.

Therefore, the definition of Buddhism must be that of the life-force which carries forward a spiritual movement called Buddhism.

Not the cry, but the flight of the wild duck leads the flock to fly and follow.

Franklin Roosevelt, exercising war powers given him by Congress, in effect instantly appropriated \$80 billion for what became known later as the Manhattan Project. Later, that initial \$80 billion was supplemented by an additional \$75 billion for a total of \$155 billion of the American people's money that went into developing atomic energy.

"I hate to solve this problem, but you need a different pink...."



Advised to do so by their lawyers, capitalism and private enterprise set about after World War II to monopolize all strategic technological know-how-- i.e. all metaphysical properties-- and to dump all physical properties... When the head of one of the USA's largest banks was asked what "commodities" were involved in that banks import-export dealings with the rest of the world on behalf of the Chinese government, he answered that know-how was the prime commodity being acquired by the Chinese through that bank.

✓  
Brother! You say you have not come to get our land or our money, but to enlighten our minds. I will now tell you that I have been at your meetings and saw you collecting money from the meeting. I cannot tell what this money was intended for, but suppose it was for your minister; and if we should conform to your way of thinking, perhaps you may want some from us... Brother! We are told that you have been preaching to the white people in this place. These people are our neighbors. We will wait a little while, and see what effect your preaching has on them. If we find it does them good and makes them honest and less disposed to cheat Indians, we will then consider again what you have said....

The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose.

No one puts concrete, metal, plastic, and glass in their garden and calls it fertilizer.

Adapting. When autumn approaches, all of life that continues to survive begins an adaption to the season. By adapting to the forces, life is protected as it rests and restores itself for new activity.

Who can wait quietly while the mud settles? Who can remain still until the moment of action?  
Observers of the Tao do not seek fulfillment. Not seeking fulfillment, they are not swayed by desire for change.

"They were babies (the gerbils), and now they have babies... it doesn't take them long to grow up...."

"And it takes wicked long for us to grow up."

"Would you want to grow up faster?"

"Yes."

"Why?"

"Because I'm gonna be rich when I grow up."

Law has been the most valuable asset possessed by the capitalist class. Without it, this class would have been as helpless as a babe. What would the medieval baron have been without armed force? But note how conditions have changed. The capitalist class, far shrewder than the feudalistic rulers, dispenses with personally equipped armed force. It becomes superfluous. All that is necessary to do is make the laws, and so guide things that the officials who enforce the laws are responsive to the interests of the propertied classes. Back of the laws are the police forces and sheriffs and militia, all kept at the expense of city, county and state-- at public expense. Clearly, then, having control over the laws and of the officials, the propertied classes have the full benefit of armed forces the expense of which, however, they do not have to defray. It has unfolded itself as a vast improvement over the crude feudal system.

So long as man attempts to save himself by the mere observance of moral, spiritual, or psychological law he is involved in the vicious circle of duality. The motivating power of the vicious circle is pride. In Christian terms we should say that man is not willing to be saved as he is; he feels that it is necessary for him to do something about it, to earn salvation by his own self-made spirituality and righteousness. The Grace of God is offered freely to all, but through pride man will not accept it. He cannot bear the thought that he is absolutely powerless to lift himself up, and that the only chance of salvation is simply to accept something which is offered as freely to the saint as to the sinner. If nothing can be done to earn this Grace it seems to set all man's self imposed ideals at naught; he has to confess himself impotent, and this is more than he can bear. So the gift of Grace is tacitly ignored, and man goes on trying to manufacture it for himself.

You pay a great deal too dear for what's freely given.

Better to bend down than to hit your head on the door jamb.

Repair. All things have built in weak points, places that decay and eventually collapse... Be energetic once you've found your path of action. Don't be lulled into inertia by the magnitude of the task. The situation will develop new energy and inspiration once the problems are removed.

The more ingenious and clever men are, the more strange things happen.

The more rules and regulations, the more thieves and robbers.

Therefore the sage says: I take no action and people are reformed.

I enjoy peace and people become honest.

I do nothing and people become rich.

I have no desires and people return to the good and simple life.

"Way down yonder in the pumpkin patch...." (\_\_\_, singing to herself)

"They like that. We sing that around Halloween."

"We still like it, no matter whether it's Halloween or not."

Hang up philosophy! Unless philosophy can make a Juliet, displant a town, reverse a prince's doom, it helps not, it prevails not.

A few Western nations are the arbiters of taste and cultural values throughout much of the world. Their news media have something close to a monopoly in interpretation, judging of news value and dissemination of ideas....

The fabricators of such histories easily forget that their selection of "significant" events from the record is subjectively determined-- largely by the need to justify the immediate political steps which they have in mind... When it is not recognized that thought orders the world, it is supposed that thought discovers an order which is already there... Indeed, the world is not unlike a vast, shapeless Rorschach blot, which we read according to our inner disposition, in such a way that our interpretations say far more about ourselves than about the blot... We know that "breaking" wood into inches or pounds is done abstractly and not concretely. It is not, however, so easy to see that breaking the field of awareness into things and events is also done abstractly, and that things are the measuring units of thought just as pounds are the measuring units of weighing. But this begins to be apparent when we realize that any one thing may, by analysis, be broken down into any number of component things, or may in its turn be regarded as the component part of some larger thing... The real difficulty of understanding this point is that whereas inches are divisions on a ruler which do not themselves appear on the wooden board to be measured, the delineation of things seems to follow divisions and boundaries actually given in nature. For example, the thing called the human body is divided from other things in its environment by the clearly discernible surface of the skin. The point, though, is that the skin divides the body from the rest of the world as one thing from others in thought but not in nature. In nature the skin is as much a joiner as a divider, being, as it were, the bridge whereby the inner organs have contact with air, warmth, and light... Just because concentrated attention is exclusive, selective, and divisive it is much easier for it to notice differences than unities... .. This suggests the following formulation concerning the uses of fact and fiction: while the use of fact grounds us in the "sensed" world around us, and while it is only from such a base that clarity of vision inevitably arises, we cannot develop concepts of feeling and meaning around the facts without the use of fiction, without the process of organizing what might be tedious facts into experiences of dramatic force...

One person's fantasy is a dream; two people sharing a fantasy is reality.

Teaching without words and work without doing are understood by very few.

Promotion. It would be wise, however, to address yourself to the concerns of those around you, thus consolidating your position... The original text states: "When the eighth month comes there will be misfortune."  
This refers to the decline of autumn, which lies unavoidably ahead.

"Pretend you thought I was real...."

The average annual foreign-aid appropriation has been \$4 billion (1950 value) per year over the 27 year period from 1952 to 1979, which amounted to a \$100 billion total. Each new year's foreign aid bill had a rider that said that if American companies were present in the country being aided, the money had to be spent through those American companies.... Foreign aid paid for all the new factories and machinery of all the American corporations moving out of America... This became a fundamental pattern.

Custom hath made it in him a property of easiness.

Nature seems to be a series of unsatisfactory moments ever demanding more because those are the terms in which we perceive it.... We understand it by cutting it to pieces, assume that it is in itself this heap of fragments, and conclude that it is a system of incompleteness which can seek fulfillment only through everlasting addition....

Contemplating. Just as the life of the individual is composed of seasons, the spring of ideas, the summer of work, the autumn of completion, and the winter of rest and contemplation, so too worldly events have their seasons. When attempting to determine the tendency of a situation at this time, approach it with the predictable plan of the seasons in mind... Experience new ideas fully, then offer your advice... Your personal relationships will develop smoothly because you can grasp what is needed and respond properly.

What you consider worth cultivating, you will cultivate in yourself.

It is so clear that it takes long to see  
You must know that the fire you are seeking  
is the fire in your own lantern  
And that your rice has been cooked from the very beginning

"That's the mother of every pony."