

## Hexagram 36 Wisdom Wounded



*Hidden knowing.*

*Benefit from bearing outer adversity and from inwardly persevering*

### Image Tradition

*Know when to hide knowing.*

*Within knowing and outside supple, yielding.*

*Endure outer dangers and conceal the purpose to further life on Earth.*

*Benefit from bearing outer adversity and inwardly persevering.*

*Darkening one's brightness indeed.*

*Inside hardship and keeping will fixed on what further life on Earth.*

**Structure:** Earth ☷ above knowing what to do ☶. Knowing hidden within the Earth.

Within an adverse situation from which we cannot escape, others inflict upon us hardships, dishonor, arrogance, and deprivation. This obstructs our capacities to further life on Earth.

We can move through such harmfully ignorant times if we hide our sacred path and holy work to further life on Earth from the others who would do us harm. Those who know do not speak. Bringing our path and holy work to the attention of others who do not share our path risks eroding our resolve through contention and ridicule.

Without resistance or self-pity, we forebear the oppressive situation and inwardly persevere. We ensure that whatever faults we see in others do not have a foothold within us. Although the adversity causes us to suffer, we keep to our path and purpose. We still have the power to advance furthering life on Earth when unnoticed by our oppressors.

By adapting to difficult situations in ways that maintain our dignity and adherence to the ways of the Earth Interbeing, we survive and inwardly persevere.<sup>1</sup> Through inward spiritual growth, we find ways to move through the adversity in ways that strengthen our resolve and capacities to further life on Earth.

**Line 1:** The line meets a dangerous situation it cannot overcome by not drawing attention to itself and by adhering to the sacred ways. It righteously avoids compromising its path by not succumbing to offered temptations. Inwardly, the line corrects its alignment with the sacred.

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<sup>1</sup> **Ways of the sacred Earth Interbeing (work in progress):** humbleness, forbearance, yielding to the sacred will, wisely responding to experience to further life on Earth, firm discipline to avoid harming the Earth Interbeing, harmonious interactions, equitable sharing, and balance with the Earth Interbeing.

**Line 2:** When deeply wounded by anger or despair, the line perseveringly yields to the sacred ways and responds in ways that further life on Earth.

**Line 3:** The line seeks to know the source of its compulsive willingness to harm others for self-benefit. It unexpectedly identifies self-centeredness as the cause of its willingness to harm and the root of its harmful views and ways. As the line gradually masters its self-centeredness, the ways to further life on Earth open to the line.

**Line 4:** The line feels deeply wounded by seeing into the heart of those who have perfected the self-centered willingness to harm others, life, and the Earth for self-benefit and then ignore the suffering they cause. The line escapes from these dangerous beings because it knows it can directly overcome them. Trying to do so would end with a pointless sacrifice.

**Line 5:** Within a culture that advances the willingness to harm others, life and the Earth for self-benefit, the line preserves its purpose to further life on Earth by concealing its efforts to further life on Earth from others entangled in the harmful.

**Line 6:** Not wisdom but ignorance. The ignorant ascend in power and domination over others, life, and the Earth. They seek to overpower the sacred but then they sink into the depths of the Earth, the consequence of their extreme self-centeredness and ignorance.