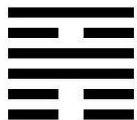


Hexagram 56 – Transitioning



Transitioning.

Sacred influence within the small.

Transitioning. Perseverance furthers life on Earth.

Structure: Fire ☲ over mountain ☶. The mountain does not move. Fire quickly moves and does not remain stationary.

Ideogram: a banner and people around it. **Meanings of ideogram:** travel, sojourn; visitor, guest.

At some point on the path, we experience being a stranger in a strange land. It begins with distancing ourselves from the ways of our harmful culture. We no longer feel we belong to a culture that promotes the willingness to harm others for self-benefit and then ignores the suffering caused. A yearning for our true home grows within us that sets us on the sacred path to return to the Earth Interbeing.

As we transition from a dangerous culture to an Earth Interbeing, we are of two minds. We remain deeply conditioned in the ways of the self-centered harmful culture, but we want to live on Earth with other people and beings in ways all thrive. The small and ordinary experiences of daily living serve as our transitional field. When we respond to experiences in ways that further life on Earth, we weaken our harmful conditioning and learn the ways of sacredness.¹ We find the sacred within all experience.

Harmful cultures condition us to advance our self-centeredness and to resist whatever obstructs us by force. We view ourselves as privileged, superior beings who have power over others and all life that we deem less than us. Danger arises from making ignorant or arrogant choices and indulging our whims without considering the consequences of our choices. Accumulating the consequences of persistently harmful behaviors destroys the world and turns us into monsters.

Interbeings yield to the sacred knowing of how to further life on Earth. When we meet resistance, we stop ourselves from acting and discern how our harmful views and behaviors contribute to causing the obstruction. We do not resist what we cannot change but rather adapt in a balanced way to what we have no capacities to change in the ways of sacredness to further life on Earth. We do this work within even the smallest moment without becoming entangled in harmful ways and views.

On our solitary path, we interact with others through our sacredness. We influence others not through our words but by how we live. Through our harmonious interactions and knowing our common sacredness and equality, we overcome what separates us from each other, other life, the Earth, our sacredness and the sacred.

¹ **Ways of sacredness to further the wellbeing of life on Earth (work in progress):** devotion to the sacred by furthering the wellbeing of life on Earth; living the sacredness and moral interdependence of life and Earth; compassionately responding to the moral obligation of interdependence to respond to suffering of life; surrendering to the sacred will to know how to respond to suffering of life; equality of mutually beneficial and harmonious interactions; equality of equitable sharing of Earth's abundance; preserving a balance living within a world of change and our sacredness; willingness to make the effort to do the harder but right thing to do.

When confused about how to respond to an experience, we stop guessing about what we should do and allow the situation to unfold on its own until we have the sacred knowing of what to do. Through the power of humbleness, we perceive the sacredness within others and our circumstances. We keep our willpower great and the expectations of what we can change small. Accumulating how we responded to seemingly unimportant moments in the ways of sacredness transforms us into interbeings.

The ways of sacredness support distancing ourselves from what harms and furthering life on Earth. As we learn to live sacredness, we feel ever more strongly attracted to our sacredness. At some point, we discover our unique work to further life on Earth within the world through the ways of sacredness, work that only we can do. Because we can never extinguish once and for all our willingness to harm and self-centeredness, we remain vigilant against their uprising and spoiling our work.

The fluidity of our ever changing transition keeps us moving toward becoming Earth interbeings. Within our current transitional step, we learn to adapt to circumstances and master the life lessons of that step. We travel our path by the choices we make. Perseveringly choosing to live our sacredness keeps us moving toward Earth Interbeing. The sacred path has no end as one step transitions into the next step, endings become beginnings.

Line 1: The line chooses to waste its time and energy on trivial and unworthy purposes, displaying its ignorance or avoidance of the dangerous situation. This failure to apply its willpower to what furthers life on Earth does not end well.

Line 2: In its journey through life, the line has mastered its harmful ways and views. It has the inner capacities to transcend its self-centeredness and humbly live the ways of sacredness to become an interbeing.

Line 3: The line willingly harms others and the Earth for self-benefit and rejects changing its dangerous ways. It shows no devotion to the sacred and does not receive the support of the sacred. The line views with contempt those it deems less worthy than it and expects them to serve it, which alienates others from it. Those who persevere in this way of living endanger themselves.

Line 4: The line has disciplined itself well on the path and has achieved a growing inner stability and opportunities to further life on Earth within the world. However, the line knows it does not yet live the ways of sacredness and anxiously defends itself from its harmful vulnerabilities. The line knows it remains within a transitional state but perseveres.

Line 5: A stranger in a strange land successfully lives in ways that further life on Earth in the ways of sacredness. The Earth Interbeing welcomes the line to it.

Line 6: The line forgets it is a stranger and loses its sacred guidance. The arrogant and violent line causes great harm. It does not yield to the sacred but believes in its self-sufficiency. It meddles in controversies and affairs that do not concern it. The line willingly harms others for self-benefit and ignores the suffering it causes. It has no humility and generates chaos. Even injury does not make it wiser. The line accomplishes nothing but its own downfall.