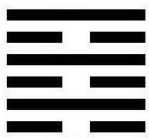


Hexagram 64 – Not Yet Crossing the Danger



Not yet crossing the danger.

Care.

The ignorant rashly act and fail.

Increasing the danger and achieving nothing.

Benefit from not imposing a direction upon the situation.

Structure: All the lines harmonize with each other but are out of position: weak lines in a strong position and strong lines in a weak position.

Life emerges out of chaos, but chaos has the power to unravel life. Life balances within chaos by sufficiently preserving the pattern (organization) of its being and persistently renewing its pattern in chaotically changing conditions through self-change. Dangers of chaos increase when we resist changing even when changing conditions call for it. We weaken the balance by forcing change, by arrogantly imposing our will upon others or situations and introducing even more chaos into the mix.

Too much change or ignoring the need to change increases the danger of unraveling the necessary conditions for life on Earth. We increase the imbalance with chaos by ignorantly forcing others and circumstances to change and by ignoring our need to respond to the imbalance, which we experience as suffering – our own and that of others. Either extreme endangers the delicate balance life has with chaos.

The hexagram describes the great challenge for life and especially for our species – learning how to recover, preserve, and the balance of our lives within chaos. Throughout our history, a struggle has ensued between domination over others and submission to the sacred knowing of how to live with all beings in ways that further life on Earth. With the advancement of ever more powerful technologies, those wanting power over others have brought us to the extreme imbalance that life could be exterminated in an afternoon. As powerless and as weak as we seem, that leaves it to those who seek to live sacredness to recover our balance within chaos.

Through the ages, we have not succeeded and may have already lost the struggle. Yet we have learned from our mistakes. The smallest actions can have large consequences. We live within an interdependent reality. Recovering the balance requires us to give back in some way for what we have received.

Imposing an ignorant and arrogant direction upon the unfolding of the sacred moving through us and experience persistently causes our defeat. We have yet to overcome wanting to dominate others and the future, the delusional belief that we know better than others what to do. Underneath that our beliefs in our superiority lies our ignorance, that we think we know what to do to achieve the outcome we want. Once we think we know, we feel we must prove our knowing.

Sacredness overarches the universal as the sacred way and the particular as each individual beings manifests sacredness differently through its uniqueness. Only one single natural order that in its individual manifestations differentiates one being from another.

Each of us manifests living the ways of sacred uniquely.¹ The field of transformation lies within our ordinary, everyday lives. Instead of foolishly believing that we must force the oppressive system to change, we discover change occurs within the moment of us responding to the needs of others in the ways of sacredness. Instead of forcing others to change and imposing our will upon situations, we grow our inner capacity to serve as a causal condition to furthering life on Earth.

Yielding to the sacred knowing brings life back into balance with chaos. At the very least, kindness, caring, and sharing will not cause harm. We have nothing left to prove but our devotion to the sacred by keeping our ignorance from harming and dominating others to prove what we think we know. We follow the ways of sacredness to further life on Earth as an equal among equals. Humbly living our sacredness and interbeing with all life will get us through what endangers life on Earth.

This last hexagram of the I Ching marks a beginning. Every ending opens to a beginning, the way of the sacred.

Line 1: When confronted by a dangerous situation, the ignorant and confused line impulsively imposes its will on others and situations to have its way and fails. It overestimated its capacities and underestimated the conditions of the situation. Because it ignored the likely harmful consequences of its actions, it humiliates itself.

Line 2: Conditions restrain the line from acting, who now patiently waits to allow the situation to unfold in its sacred ways without its interference.

Line 3: The line disciplines itself to prevent prematurely acting to overcome the danger. As the time to move through the danger has not yet come, it prepares itself for the moment.

Line 4: The time to overcome what harms has come. The line moves through its resistance to changing its harmful ways, which causes the line difficulties and hardships. Overcoming the willingness to harm others for self-benefit requires a strong self-discipline and a firm adherence to the sacred ways. While this struggle consumes much time and effort, the line receives the support and blessings of the sacred to persevere in furthering life on Earth.

Line 5: Perseverance in moving through the resistance of overcoming what harms life on Earth leads the line to live its sacredness. The sage becomes an interbeing.

Line 6: Upon freeing itself of its willingness to harm others for self-benefit, the line humbly lives its sacredness to further life on Earth. However, if the line should now try to correct others by imposing its will upon them, it forfeits what it has achieved.

¹ **Ways of sacredness:** worshipping the sacred by how we live within an interdependent reality to further life on Earth; living the sacredness and moral interdependence of life and Earth; fulfilling our moral obligation to respond to the suffering of others and all life; surrendering to the sacred will what to do; the equality of mutually beneficial interactions; the equality of equitable sharing of Earth's abundance; keeping still when ignorant; willingness to make the effort to do the harder but right thing to do.