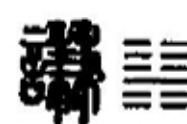




15 Humbling/The Grey One QIAN



HUMBLING

Balance, adjust, cut through pride and complications; stay close to fundamentals; think and act in a modest way; omen animal showing liminal unconscious processes are activated.

MYTHS FOR CHANGE: THE STORY OF THE TIME

Charge to the Oracle: *Being Great means you do not overfill things. The Grey One appears. Accept this and use the energy of Humbling.*

This figure presents a 'dream-animal' or omen animal, sign of the activation of liminal, numinous powers. The literal animal is the great grey rat-headed hamster (*Cricetelus triton nestor Thomas*). It is a large, silver-grey animal, solitary and untameable, with a human stance. It lives in an extensive system of burrows that suggest the underworld, where it hides a great store of stolen grain. It will attack and eat other rodents and can appear suddenly and ominously, standing on its hind legs with forepaws folded. The figure links this omen animal to the quality of humbling or equalizing, the moment when a lack is filled through activation of unconscious powers moving in underworld ways. As a stance in the world, this 'humbling' cuts through the pride and complication of an over-developed ego. It breeds an agile, extremely effective personal power connected with the Noble One or ideal of the Realising Person. This quality is considered to be the 'handle' of the power and virtue (*de*) that allows you to become an effective person. The souls and spirits extend blessing through it and the people love it. Heaven augments it and Earth diffuses it. The appearance of this omen animal indicates that your situation has constellated the unconscious powers and that you can trust in the outcome.

THE RESPONSE

Humbling. The Grey One. Make an offering and you will succeed.

Noble One brings things to completion.

Humble, QIAN: think and speak of yourself in a modest way; polite, modest, simple, respectful; cut through pride and complication; balance and adjust, harmonize; yielding, compliant, reverent; omen animal indicating that unconscious powers are at work. The old character shows a man's face with an open mouth, suggesting words, and a hand offering two bundles of grain, balancing the powers.



QIAN¹ (1676/149) shows words (1) YAN² (12705), to speak in such a way that speaker and listener come together, and JIAN¹ (1508), made up of a hand YOU² or CHI⁴ (3) holding many stalks of grain HE² (2) or arrows SHI³. With the radical 'rodent' (at right) it is the character QIAN, the Great Grey Rat.

Humbling describes your situation in terms of cutting through pride and complication. The way to deal with it is to keep your words and thoughts simple and connected to fundamental things. Think and speak of yourself in a modest way. Take the lower position. By yielding you acquire the power to realise the Way. This is pleasing to the spirits. Through it they will give you success, effective power and the capacity to bring the situation to maturity. If you use the oracle to keep in touch with the Way, you can complete what you want to do. Your acts will not bring things to an end, but will open new possibilities. Cutting through pride and the need to dominate brings a great power of realization. Be clear about this, then act directly.

THE SCHOLAR SPEAKS

The hexagram figure shows an inner limit that connects you to the power of the Earth. In the middle of the Earth there is a mountain. This will release you from constraint and bring creative balance. Don't go to extremes. Be agile and alert. Humbling gives you a handle on the power to realise who you are meant to be. It dignifies and clarifies things, cutting away formality by keeping rules simple and clear. Reduce the many to augment the few. Carefully appraise the value of things to equalize the flow of energy. This is a time of connection between the spirit powers. Heaven moves



below to bring brightness and clarity. Earth's modesty moves in the above. Heaven's way is to lessen what is overfull and augment what is humble. Earth's way is to transform what is overfull and spread what is humble. The souls and spirits that govern the world harm what is overfull and bless what is humble. The people's way is to hate what is overfull and love what is humble. Humbling brings dignity and makes things shine. It is modest and does not try to go beyond what is there. Through it you can accomplish and complete things.

THE SHAMAN SPEAKS

In the Earth centre, Mountain. Humbling. The Grey One appears.

A time when Noble One reduces the many to augment the few, evaluating, evening and spreading out the beings.

Offered service at the Earth Altar, the spirit's words bind us and accomplish fate. The Sacrificer is working in the Field. Earth above yields and sustains while Mountain below articulates what is complete to suggest what is beginning. This is the Earth Moment: articulating the treasure hidden in the field of life. The ideal Realising Person reflects this by balancing the opposites to correctly spread the blessings that flow from the spirit world. Work through the receptive and the power of Earth. Strip the corpse.

TRANSFORMING LINES: CHANGE AT WORK

INITIAL SIX

The Grey One biting through. Humbling, humbling.

Noble One uses this to step into the Great Stream.

Wise Words! The Way is open.

This means lowly birth as a herdsman. Work hard at making this work. Keep your pride out of the way. Think everything through twice, then take the big step. The Way is open to you. Unconscious powers are at work.

Direction: Accept difficulties. Release bound energy. The situation is already changing.

SIX AT SECOND

The Grey One calling.

Humbling signals to others.

Trial: Wise Words! The Way is open.

This means centring and acquiring the heart. The inner work you are doing calls out to others like the cry animals use to recognize each other. Unconscious powers are at work. Don't hesitate. The Way is open.

Direction: Make the effort. Let yourself be led. You can realise hidden potential. The situation is already changing.

NINE AT THIRD

The Grey One at work.

Noble One, toiling, toiling through Humbling,

Brings what he desires to completion.

Wise Words! The Way is open.

The myriad common people submit to this. Humbly work at this idea, following its connection to the Way. Carry on. Unconscious powers are at work. You don't need to advertise. Whatever you desire will simply appear.

Direction: Be open. Provide what is needed.

SIX AT FOURTH

The Grey One tearing through.

Demonstrating Humbling. Seize the moment.

There is nothing for which this will not be advantageous.

Harvesting.

There is no contradiction. Let your actions show what Humbling really is. Cut through pride and complication. If you can do this, everything will benefit. Unconscious powers are at work. Don't be attached to your ideas and do not get involved in arguments. Everything will fall into your hands.

Direction: Pay careful attention to the Small. Don't be afraid to act alone. You are connected to a creative force.

SIX AT FIFTH

The Grey One. Humble them.

If you are not affluent, use your neighbour's wealth.

Advantageous to attack and subjugate. Harvesting.

There is nothing for which this will not be advantageous.

Chastise and do not submit! It is time to expand. Take what you need, for people will offer. You have a real purpose. Work together. Do not be timid. Attack your problems aggressively. Everything will benefit from this behaviour. Unconscious powers are at work. *Direction:* Re-imagine the situation. Gather energy for a decisive new move.

SIX ABOVE

The Grey One calling.

Humbling signals to others.

Advantageous to move the legions and chastise the capital city.

Harvesting.

Purpose is not acquired yet, but you are allowed to capture the capital. The inner power of your purpose calls out to others. Unconscious powers are at work. Focus your energies on a major plan, marshal your forces and attack. You can set right your place in the social world, eliminate negativity and help others.

Direction: Articulate past experiences. Release bound energy. The situation is already changing.

