

36 *Brightness Hiding/* *Calling Bird* MING YI



BRIGHTNESS HIDING

Hide your light; protect yourself; accept and begin a difficult task; oppression and hidden influences.

MYTHS FOR CHANGE: THE STORY OF THE TIME

Charge to the Oracle: *Advancing will lead to a place where you are injured. Accept this and use the energy of Brightness Hiding. This means injury.*

In contrast to the rising sun, Ming Yi is the dark sun, the sun in the Earth and the sacrifice to the dark powers at Earth Altar. This is the World of the Dead and mourning, the Demon Country, and travelling among the barbarians – outcast, marginalized, exiled away from the centres of culture and power. A central image is a solar eclipse, the eclipse at Feng that signalled King Wu's receipt of the Mandate of Heaven when he was 'hiding' in the Mourning Hut for his father King Wen. It is also help in hardship and accepting a difficult task. It evokes a series of heroes: Yi the Archer in the Demon Country, shooting the three-legged crow that is eating the sun; Yu the Great taming the demons through enduring hardship; King Wen imprisoned by the Shang tyrant, creating the *Book of Changes* in his cell; King Wu who sets his armies marching to overthrow oppression; Jizi who endured hardship at the court of the tyrant, a voice in the wilderness. Accepting the hardship implied in Brightness Hiding, symbolized by the Calling Bird, will bring about deliverance and the new day.

THE RESPONSE

Brightness Hiding.

Trial: this hardship is advantageous. **Harvesting.**

Brightness, MING: light from fire, sun, moon and stars; awareness, intelligence, consciousness; understand, illuminate, distinguish clearly; lucid, clear, evident; dew ritually collected on mirror in moonlight, light ritually collected on or kindled by a mirror turned to the sun; clairvoyance, knowledge of inherent goodness, inner light which is sign of health; vision, divine action,

cleanse; luminous, restore virtue, the divine action of the *shen*; the bright bird, a golden pheasant; *also*: a mandate, fate, command, order or destiny; make a covenant, the Mandate of Heaven. The old character shows the sun and the moon.

Hide, Yi: keep out of sight; distant, remote; raze, lower, level; ordinary, plain; cut, wound, destroy, exterminate; barbarians, vulgar uncultured people; prepare the cover for a corpse, close the passes; the spirit bird and wind of the west that blows from the realm of the dead, protector of the soil and its life. The old character shows a great man holding a bow. It suggests the archer hero Yi, who shot down the ten suns that threatened to destroy the world.



MING² (7919/72) shows the sun RI⁴ (1 and 3) and the moon YUE² (2). YI² (5297/37) shows a man with an arrow or arrows, perhaps a string-arrow (4).

Brightness Hiding describes your situation in terms of entering the darkness to protect yourself, or to begin a difficult new endeavour. The way to deal with it is to hide your light. Conceal your intelligence by voluntarily entering what is beneath you, like the sun as it sets in the evening. There is a real possibility of injury in the situation. By dimming the light of your awareness and entering the darkness you can avoid being hurt. You have the chance to release yourself from your problems and inaugurate a new time. Putting your ideas to the trial by accepting drudgery and difficulty will bring you profit and insight.

THE SCHOLAR SPEAKS

The hexagram figure shows inner light hidden in common labour. Brightness enters the Earth's centre. Deliverance from your problems is already being prepared, so accept what is confronting you. Advancing always creates the possibility of injury. Hiding implies injury. You are being proscribed and excluded. Carefully watch the desires that connect you with others so you can consciously choose when to darken or to brighten them. Brighten the pattern within



yourself while yielding to outer darkness. Use the enveloping obscurity and the difficulties confronting you to clarify worthy ideas. Be like King Wen, who organized the Changes when he was imprisoned by a tyrant. Accept drudgery and difficulty. This brings profit and insight. Darken your light, accept the inner heaviness and let it correct your purpose. Be like Prince Ji, who knew how to distinguish what is right in difficult times and who became a model for others.

THE SHAMAN SPEAKS

Brightness enters the centre of Earth. Brightness Hiding.

This is a time when Noble One uses supervising the crowds, darkening and brightening.

The spirit that reveals itself in the Bright Omens is offered service at the Earth Altar. The Bright Omens are held in the Field. Earth hides and contains the Bright Presence of things. This is Earth over Fire: brightness, awareness and warmth that are hidden within the field of common experience. The ideal Realising Person reflects this by carefully supervising his involvement in the human crowd, working from a concealed position. Work through rousing and inspiring. A cycle is beginning.

TRANSFORMING LINES: CHANGE AT WORK

INITIAL NINE

Dark Bird calling. Hiding your Brightness through flight,

Dipping your wings in the waters.

Noble One goes three days without eating.

Have a direction to go.

Master your words to influence others.

It is right not to take things in now. You are escaping from an impossible situation, embarked on a dangerous and important mission. Have courage and stamina. Have a plan. You can convince people if you master your words. This is King Wu at the beginning of the campaign to restore the Mandate.

Direction: Stay humble and connected to the facts. Trust hidden processes. Release bound energy. The situation is already changing.

SIX AT SECOND

Dark Bird calling. Hiding your Brightness.

Hidden, hurt in the left thigh. Use a horse to rescue it.

Wise Words! Invigorating strength opens the Way.

Yield to this impulse. This is a serious but not deadly wound. To deal with it, you must mobilize your spirit. Come to the rescue. If you can invigorate your imaginative power, the Way will open and you will free yourself.

Direction: A flourishing time is coming. If you let yourself be led, you can realise hidden potential. The situation is already changing.

NINE AT THIRD

Dark Bird calling. Hiding your Brightness in the Southern Hunt.

Hounding them, you acquire their Great Head.

Trial: this does not allow affliction.

You acquire the Great. This is the great hunt and a campaign into the Demon Country. In the midst of very considerable difficulties, you find the central illusion that causing this chaos. Though it may act slowly, this will release you from the pain and sadness that afflict you. It lets you open your heart once more.

Direction: Something important returns. Be open and provide what is needed.

SIX AT FOURTH

Dark Bird calling. Enter the left belly.

Catch the heart of the Hidden Brightness.

Issue forth from their gate and chambers.

Be intent on catching the heart. You find the heart of the darkness obscuring you. Get out of this terrible place. Take aggressive action. Go right to the heart of it and reclaim your lost intelligence. Leave this situation and don't come back.

Direction: This begins a time of abundance. Don't be afraid to act alone. You are connected with a creative force.

Dark Bird calling. Jizi Hides his Brightness.

Advantageous Trial. Harvesting.

Brightness is not allowed to pause. This is the place of Jizi, the man with integrity who serves a tyrant. You have to pretend to be a part of this situation. Disguise yourself. Don't lose your integrity. You will survive. This will bring you profit and insight in the end. Be clear about what is really happening.

Direction: The situation is already changing.

NINE ABOVE

Dark Bird calling. Brightness Hiding.

'A time of brightening, a time of darkening.'

First it mounts to Heaven, then it enters the Earth.

At first it illuminates the four cities, then it lets things go. These are the suns, the sons of Xihe, that go out from the Sun Tree then return to the Moon Tree. This cycle is over. The tyrant falls. The darkening ends and you are free. Life once more comes forth from hardship. Think about this set of events and how it started. There is a lesson to be learned.

Direction: Renovate a corrupt situation. The situation is already changing.

