

22



(bì) Elegance

Success. In small matters, it is appropriate to go.

- Nine in the first place: Elegant your feet. Discarding the chariot and walking.
- Six in the second place: Elegant your cheek.
- Nine in the third place: Such elegance, such luster! Endless constancy, good fortune.
- Six in the fourth place: Such elegance, such fairness! So like a white horse, be constant.
- Six in the fifth place: The elegance of a hillside garden. To the east, the bolt of silk is in tatters. Trouble, but in the end, good fortune.
- Nine at the top: Simple elegance, without blame.

Image

Below the mountain, there is a fire: the image of elegance. You should clearly understand the varieties of governance, and not dare to judge criminals.

Fire at the foot of a mountain is the image of elegance and grace. Here, the flames remain at its foot, illuminating their immediate area but refraining from consuming wide swaths of timber. Smallness and restraint are praised, and it is suitable to make progress in small matters. But elegance, though pleasant, is insufficient for the accomplishment of great enterprises. Therefore if you are considering making a major change, perhaps you should make some small moves in that direction, but refrain from any life-changing commitment for a while.

Shaughnessy, 64–65, 294.

Lynn, 273–279.

Wilhelm/Baynes, 90–93.