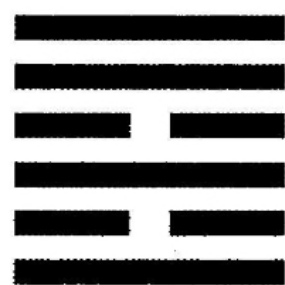


37

家人



(jiā rén) Family

Family. It is effective for a woman to persevere.

- Nine in the first place: At the gate, the family. Remorse disappears.
- Six in the second place: Without a place to go. At the center, good food. Persistence brings good fortune.
- Nine in the third place: The family goes “shyow-shyow.”* Remorse and danger, but good fortune. Wife and children go “shee-shee.”* In the end, distress.
- Six in the fourth place: A prosperous family. Great good fortune.
- Nine in the fifth place: The ruler approaches those with families. Not pity but good fortune.
- Nine at the top: Sincere and awed. In the end, good fortune.

Image

Winds come from the fire: the image of the family. You should use words with substance and acts which endure.

While the effects of wind currents on fires are more visible than the currents produced by flames, our attention here is focused on the latter, as an emblem representing the family. Fire produces heat which rises and causes changes in the motions of the air nearby, particularly in the kind of enclosed space associated with a home. Similarly, the warmth generated by a family also creates motion, both within the group, and among those it impels beyond it, in search of sustenance for the group or countervailing alliances beyond it.

The flickering flames, though anchored by the wood which feeds them, are extraordinarily mobile. In addition, they generate movement in the air surrounding them. It is precisely because of this extreme mobility that we are encouraged to limit ourselves to words which are not light but substantive, and to actions in which we know we can persist. While we may feel warmed and comfortable within our families, it is precisely because these ties last so long that we must be so careful with them, choosing our words with care and selecting actions in which we can persist without doing harm to either ourselves or those near us.

* It is unclear which emotions were associated with these sounds. The first may indicate anger or joy; the second may be happy.

Shaughnessy, 162–163, 321.

Lynn, 363–367.

Wilhelm/Baynes, 143–147.