



## **Four Pillars of Destiny**

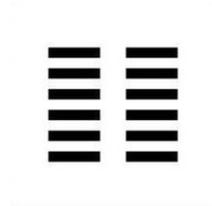
John Joiner Born 4/16/1927

*Born in Winter Park, FL*

Season of Birth: Clear and Bright

Yin/Yang Proportion: 55% Yin, 45% Yang

Pre-Heaven determines the development of the individual. This hexagram governs one's rise in life. It is the basic hexagram representing the time and location of birth. This is the seed pattern from which one's life unfolds.



### **K'un, The Receptive, Earth**

Made up of broken lines only representing the dark, yielding, and receptive primal power of yin. This hexagram's attribute is devotion with an image of the Earth. It is the perfect complement to the Creative not the opposite for the Receptive does not combat the Creative, but completes it. This represents nature in contrast to spirit, Earth in contrast to heaven, space as against time, and the feminine-maternal as against the patriarchal-paternal. When this is applied to one's human affairs the principle of this complementary relationship is to be found not only in the relation between a man and woman, but also in that between parent and child. Indeed, even in the individual this duality appears in the coexistence of the spiritual world with the world of the senses.

Nonetheless there is no real dualism here because there is a clearly defined hierarchic relationship between these two principles. In itself of course the Receptive is just as important as the Creative, but the attribute of devotion defines the place occupied by this primal power in relation to the Creative. For the Receptive must be activated and led by the Creative upon which is only positive. Only when it abandons this position and tries to stand as an equal side by side with the Creative will it become evil. The result then is opposition to and struggle against the Creative which is only negative.

### **The Judgment**

The Receptive brings about sublime success,

Furthering through the perseverance of a mare.

If the superior man undertakes something and tries to lead,

He goes astray;

But if he follows, he finds guidance.

It is favorable to find friends in the west and south,

To forego friends in the east and north.

Quiet perseverance brings good fortune.

There are four fundamental aspects of the Creative which includes sublime success furthered through perseverance which is attributed to the Receptive. Here, however, the perseverance is more closely defined as that of a mare. The Receptive connotes spatial reality in contrast to the spiritual potentiality of the Creative. The potential becomes real and the spiritual becomes spatial through the mare. The horse belongs to Earth just as the dragon belongs to heaven. Its tireless roaming over the plains is taken as a symbol of the vast expanse of the Earth. This symbol is chosen because the mare combines the strength and swiftness of the horse with the gentleness and devotion of the cow.

Only because nature in its myriad forms corresponds with the myriad impulses of the Creative can it make these impulses a reality. Nature's richness lies in its power to nourish all living things yet its greatness lies in its power to give them beauty and splendor. Thus, it prospers all that lives. It is the Creative that begets things, but they are brought to birth by the Receptive. Applied to human affairs what the hexagram indicates is action in conformity with each situation presented to you. You are not in an independent position, but are acting as an assistant. This means that you must achieve something. It is not your task to try to lead as this would only make you lose your way. If you know how to meet fate with an attitude of acceptance you are sure to find the right guidance. Let yourself be guided and do not go ahead blindly, but learn from the situation what is demanded of you and then follow this intimation from fate.

## **The Image**

The Earth's condition is receptive devotion.

Thus, the superior man who has breadth of character

Carries the outer world.

There is only one heaven and there is only one Earth. In this hexagram of heaven, a doubling of the trigram implies duration in time, but in the hexagram of Earth the doubling connotes the solidity and extension in space by virtue of which the Earth is able to carry and preserve all things that live and move upon it. The Earth in its devotion carries all things both good and evil without exceptions. In the same way the superior man gives to his character breadth, purity, and sustaining power so that he is able both to support and bear with people and things alike.

## **Yearly Pillars 7, 3, and 8**

### **Body Positivity**

Do not assume your abilities are based on what you can do or do not know about what you can do. Create and hold space for you to exercise autonomy over your body, your relationships, and your experiences.

## **Enjoyment**

Provide yourself with fun moments and experiences to help you associate challenging physical work with happiness and success.

## **Growth**

Prioritize growing as a professional to better serve yourself and the world. You should develop a practice whereby you regularly self-evaluate your practices and their alignment with the Four Pillars of Destiny.

## **Heavenly Stem**

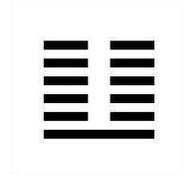
Your Heavenly Stem falls under Ding Fire and Ji Earth. People with Ding Fire as their yearly master are often warm, inspirational, passionate, creative, and kind. You can often illuminate the lives of others by just being yourself making you a magnet of both good and bad company. You will make a great leader as you are passionate and very capable of controlling that fire in your belly towards a direction you wish to move towards in life.

An individual with Ji Earth as the self-element can be expected to be firm, virtuous, humble, and with inner peace. You have a natural nurturing effect on the people around you. Friends and colleagues might see you as a teacher/mentor. This is even when you have no intention to teach at all. It's no coincidence that you can often find you possess key characteristics of those found behind highly successful people. This resource can be invaluable to others.

### **Water Horse**

Your animal is the water horse. Water horses are quirky and unusual while routinely confounding their trainers and riders with odd behavior and ailments. They even catalyze profound transformation in the lives of the people they're closest to. Water horses are often plagued by unique physical problems. These odd conditions are real but their origin often lies in unexpected places. For example, water horses react to energetic influences such as power lines passing through their pasture. They also react to physical substances like pesticides or chemical shampoos. You may discover new alternative health care approaches in your quest to improve odd physical symptoms. Water horses often respond best to energy-based techniques like acupressure, acupuncture, homeopathy, healing essences, and Reiki.

The Later Heaven Hexagram is the foundation for one's individual life subsequent to the years dominated by the Pre-Heaven hexagram. The Later Heaven hexagram reflects the reaping of one's harvest.



### **Fu, Return, The Turning Point**

The idea of a turning point arises from the fact that after the dark lines of this hexagram have pushed all of the light lines upward and out of the hexagram another light line enters the hexagram from below. The time of darkness is now past. The winter solstice brings the victory of light. This hexagram is linked with the eleventh month of the solstice (December - January).

### **The Judgment**

Return. Success.

Going out and coming in without error.

Friends come without blame.

To and fro goes the way.

On the seventh day comes return.

It furthers one to have somewhere to go.

After a time of decay comes a turning point. The powerful light that had been banished returns. There is movement, but it is not brought about via force. The upper trigram K'un is characterized by devotion whereby the movement is natural and arises spontaneously. For this reason, the transformation of the old becomes easy. The old is discarded and the new is introduced. Societies of people sharing the same views are formed. But since these groups come together in full public knowledge and are in harmony all selfish separatist tendencies are excluded. The idea of Return is based on the courses of nature. The movement is cyclic and the course completes itself. Therefore, it is not necessary to hasten anything artificially. Everything comes of itself at the appointed time. This is the meaning of heaven and Earth.

All movements are accomplished in six stages and the seventh brings Return. Thus, the winter solstice with which the decline of the year begins. In the seventh month after the summer solstice the sunrise comes in the seventh double hour after sunset. Therefore, seven is the number of the young light which arises when six, the number of the great darkness, is increased by one. In this way the state of rest gives place to movement.

## **The Image**

Thunder within the Earth:

The image of the turning point.

Thus, the kings of antiquity closed the passes

At the time of solstice.

Merchants and strangers did not go about,

And the ruler

Did not travel through the provinces.

The winter solstice has always been celebrated in China as the resting time of the year. A custom that survives in the time of rest observed at the New Year. In winter the life energy symbolized by thunder, the Arousing, is still underground. Movement is just at its beginning and it must be strengthened by rest so that it will not be dissipated by being used prematurely. This principle of allowing energy that is renewing itself to be reinforced by rest applies to all similar situations. The return of health after illness and the return of understanding after an estrangement. Everything must be treated tenderly and with care at the beginning so that the Return may lead to a flowering.

## **Monthly Pillars 6 and 5**

### **Full Health**

Ensure your experiences are safe and enhance your overall quality of life. Do not intimidate or shame others rather appropriately challenge them with consideration for your mental, emotional, and physical health.

### **Scope of Practice**

Acknowledge your professional and personal limitations which should not prevent you from seeking a higher level of care for conditions outside of your scope of practice. Implement evidence-based practices and follow guidelines from major professional organizations.

## Heavenly Stem

Your Heavenly Stem falls under Geng Metal and Wu Earth. Geng people are strong and can handle large amounts of pressure. Through hard training you can become a useful tool, but when you have an easy-going early life, you can become extremely spoiled and lazy with very low self-esteem. People with Geng Metal as self-element are righteous, have good judgment, and can even be spiritual. They usually have good endurance and can persevere through hardships with an end goal clearly in mind. When you achieve extraordinary success, it is usually something that you have earned with sweat and blood rather than being at the right place at the right time.

People with Wu as self-element are single-minded, solid, stable, dependable, and often stubborn. Exuding calmness is just part and parcel of what you do. A responsible nature makes you the sort of person who others can rely on. If you give your word on something others can be assured that you will make it happen or die trying. While single-mindedness is a hallmark of great men/women and high achievers it can also lead to a stubbornness to change your mind even when all evidence that proves the contrary has been presented.

## **Metal Dragon**

Your animal is the Metal Dragon. Metal dragons are simple, direct, virtuous, and friendly to people. You are also tough and enduring when accomplishing a task. You have a unique thinking mode which could make you put forward neoteric ideas in work. You are outstanding in designing and planning, but not suitable to carry out the work plans. If you want to succeed adopt a down-to-earth attitude to make progress. You may have several relationships with different people at the same time romantically, but actually find you are not really happy in any of them. If you can learn to treasure those who really care about you there is the possibility that you would harvest a stable marriage. As a family head you will make sure those at home always have what they want and need.

## **Day Pillar 3 and 5**

### **Enjoyment**

Provide yourself with fun moments and experiences to help you associate challenging physical work with happiness and success.

### **Scope of Practice**

Acknowledge your professional and personal limitations which should not prevent you from seeking a higher level of care for conditions outside of your scope of practice. Implement evidence-based practices and follow guidelines from major professional organizations.

### **Heavenly Stem**

Your Heavenly Stem falls under Wu Earth. Having the trait of being immovable like a mountain also means you can be resistant to change.

Yet more often than not those with Wu Earth self-element might need to allow themselves to be moved in order to reach their full potential or to break through that personal growth threshold. Comfort zones and procrastination will be a common theme in life if you don't learn how to manage these natural habits.

Wu personalities in the office can often be one of those who others avoid offending no matter their level of authority. Yet in group meetings you can often avoid revealing your most intricate thoughts. Only preferring to provide your most valuable inputs to your inner circle.

## **Wood Dragon**

This dragon is infinitely curious wanting to know everything. You find time and energy to get to the answer of the most difficult questions. A great performer, a jack of all trades, and an interesting narrator and listener. You carry beautiful, new, and revolutionary ideas. You also have the ability to put ideas into words while putting them into practice. In every action you are guided by common sense. However, be careful not to dig in too deeply into life's problems, don't confront others with resistance, and don't start endless arguments. Try to follow the middle path, do not offend anyone, and you can achieve goals gently and gradually. Be cautious of correlating everything in the world with your excessive pride and don't change only when you know that it is strictly beneficial to your personally.

## Hourly Pillar 6, 2, and 7

### **Full Health**

Ensure your experiences are safe and enhance your overall quality of life. Do not intimidate or shame others rather appropriately challenge them with consideration for your mental, emotional, and physical health.

### **Approachability**

Your attitude should be positive, realistic, and predictable. Your processes transparent. Acknowledge your own privilege as a barrier between yourself and those you serve.

### **Body Positivity**

Do not assume your abilities are based on what you can do or do not know about what you can do. Create and hold space for you to exercise autonomy over your body, your relationships, and your experiences.

## Heavenly Stem

Your Heavenly Stem falls under Ding Fire. Ding Fire people who appear to be quiet, reserved, and introverted are often those we should take note that this perception and impression remains true. You are often elegant in poise, refined in behavior, and exhibit gracious mannerism when interacting with others. You also possess a selfless ability to sympathize and empathize with others making you the type of friend everybody loves to have in social groups. While most Ding Fire personalities are willing learners towards improving themselves, they can also be more sensitive to what others think compared to other people. Your helpful nature makes you a source of advice at work. An eagerness to provide assistance to others can cause you to stray from your own responsibilities so be mindful of this.

## **Fire Rabbit**

The fire rabbit is quick, clever, and ambitious, but seldom finishes what they start. You epitomize gentleness, refinement, and elegance. You tend to prefer situations that are perfectly favorable according to your innate desires and will bypass all obstacles and persons not found suitable. Gifted, nice to be with, discreet, refined, reserved, and ambitious, but not too much so. The rabbit is a social creature, tactful, cool, and sensitive to others. Rabbits are born with an innate sagacity and a natural shrewdness which makes you streetwise when it comes to the affairs of the world. You will undertake nothing before you have weighed the pros and cons examining the deal from every angle. Because of this people admire you and take you into their confidence. You shine in trade especially in the offbeat aspect of it such as antiques where you can capitalize on your good taste. Politics, diplomacy, and the law all offer you equally good opportunities provided always that you can live the tranquil life you crave within their orbit.