

Pairs and Crossline Omens

Each hexagram in Change has a paired figure or double associated with it. These sets of two interconnected six-line figures or Pairs are the basic units in the Matrix of Change. A Pair holds the two Primal Powers (yin and yang, Dragon and Dark Animal Goddess) in a single effective image, an interchange between Inspiration and Realization.

A Pair is a subtle interpretive tool. Each locates and describes a deep transformation, a specific paradigm with its own thematic concerns. The internal Matrix generated by a Pair relates it to other sites in our symbolic life, both past and future and establishes basic sites where the omens of Change can be displayed in their complexity.

Internal Dynamic and Matrix of the Pair

Each Pair generates a set of other Paired figures across the internal matrix of its lines. These Pairs of Generated Figures describe the interchange between the interconnected lines and themes of the two hexagrams that make up the Pair. The interconnections are places where a given Pair is connected with other Pairs in the Matrix, circulating us through a series of related images that establish the deep background and prognosis of a situation. These interconnections form the Crossline Omens or **Guideways**. Through the model of the **Decades** they can also point at specific ages and events in a person's life that may be relevant to the situation at hand, the **Karmic Nodes**.

Types of Pairs: Rotational

The 64 *gua* or six-line diagrams of Change constitute 32 pairs. Of these, 28 pairs or 56 diagrams are related to each other by a process called *inversion* or *rotation*: one figure in a Pair becomes the other figure when it is inverted or rotated on its central axis. These are called Rotational Pairs. They reflect the process called *hua*: gradual, normal change. It is the norm in the matrix and reflects the regular exchange between the two halves of a theme or story.

Types of Pairs: Symmetrical or Conversional

Another, smaller group of Pairs do *not* change when rotated or inverted (1:2, 27:28, 29:30, and 61:62). To effectuate the change here, each individual line must be *transformed* or *converted* (*bian*) into its opposite. These Symmetrical or Conversional Pairs (1:2, 27:28, 29:30, and 61:62) are the Engines of Change, Primary Sites of Radical Transformation where the stream of time is disconnected, turned, and re-connected in a different way. They reverse entropy, re-charging a situation by connecting it to primal sources of energy.

Types of Pairs: Sites of Intense Mediating Activity

There is a further set of four Pairs (11:12, 17:18, 53:54, and 63:64) that change through *both* rotation and conversion. I characterize these as Sites of Intense Shamanic and Ritual activity that mediate between the worlds, connecting the primary powers to personal life.

Irregular Rotational Pairs: Local Zones of Radical Transformation

The final link in the in the dynamic of the Pairs weaves the transformative potential of the Primary Sites of Transformation or Engines of Change into 12 Irregular Rotational Pairs.

A normal Rotational Pair generates a regular set of other paired Figures across its matrix. However, there is a notable exception to this rule: sometimes two interconnected lines of a Rotational Pair change to produce the *same hexagram*; and when they do the hexagram they produce is *always* one of the 8 Symmetrical Figures, the Primary Sites of Radical Transformation (1:2, 27:28, 29:30, 61:62). This significant irregularity in the normal process of change (*hua*) shows a place where radical transformation (*bian*) is possible because the material in question is pulled back through two Primary Sites of Radical Transformation. I call these powerful anomalies Zones of Radical Transformation.

The Guideways or Crossline Omens

All of these dynamics are directly expressed in the **Guideways** that are given with each of the Transforming Lines in this translation. Crossline Omens trace the

inner pathways of Change across the internal Matrix of a Pair. They move from a given Transforming Line through the lines generated in the Relating Figures associated with the change and connect with the Crossline. What emerges is a hidden pathway, a profound and precise portrait of change in a given moment that allows *shen*, a moment of spirit and enlightenment to emerge.

Here is an example, the first line of hexagram 3 Sprouting.

Inner World

Step 1 Beginnings: This return of the spirit attracts a new fate.

Working with Change: Workers, employees, base of support.

A stone pillar. The riders wheel and turn.

Trial: Advantageous for a residence.

Advantageous to install lords as helpers.

Your purpose is moving correctly. Value what is below. The Great acquires support of the common people. This is the standing stone in front of an ancestral temple, sprouted from the earth. Stop and establish your foundations. Connect to your own deep roots. Empower others to help you. You are on the right track.

Guideway (3.1 [8.1 : 7.6] 4.6): You have a connection to the spirits that will carry you through, filling the vessels to overflowing. You are given a mandate to lay out a new city and receive the dwellers. Go back and accept the challenge. Do not act like an outlaw, violent and impulsive, for you would be smiting the very envelopment that will bring things to maturity. Strip away your old ideas. Find supportive friends. Be open and provide what is needed. Accepting the shock of inner enlightenment now brings you a deep faith in the processes of life.

The **Guideways** represent a deep and hidden dialogue between the Primal Powers in a very specific situation. It has been my experience they are extraordinarily effective in showing the hidden pathways and images through which transformation can be activated. They can truly contribute to an understanding of the precise ways Change is moving, linking us to the magical power of the mythological mind.