

Previous Causes for Our Left Home Names

出家名號有夙因

朗妮·鮑爾(前恒隱) 記 By Loni Baur (Former Heng Yin)

On the plane from New York to San Diego, on February 12, 1973, Shifu said, "Write this down:

*Qian Qian, Ning Jing, Heng Shou Xian,
Yi Yin, Xiu Chi are five lotuses;
1968 Shurangama Assembly,
propagate Buddhism and transform those with affinities.*

It's a secret. Don't let the others know yet. I wrote this verse many years ago. Seeing this verse, you all should know what you are all about."

The next morning at Upasika Phuong's home, he said to Heng Chih, Heng Hsien and me, "The verse I told you about yesterday was written while I was cultivating filial piety beside my mother's grave. At that time the Sixth Patriarch and I talked about these matters. I observed the conditions yesterday and saw that you Bhikshunis could know this vow; these are affairs which took place several decades ago."

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When I came to meet the Master, I knew only two things: (1) that I was hopelessly lost in a world full of suffering, and (2) the Master could teach me the way to escape suffering and how to help others escape.

Season upon season, year after year, the Master tirelessly expounded the scriptures of the wonderful Dharma, and his disciples studied them. But more than that, we learned from every word and every action of the Master, because he truly lived the words he taught. Kindness, compassion, joy, and giving are words. But we whose lives the Master has touched know, beyond the words, how he recognized, nourished and brought forth in each of us the very best and brightest part of our natures.

Some years back, I dreamed that I had floated off to the end of the universe. I looked back at the earth, a tiny, far-off speck. As I stood there in the blackness, with stars all around, I looked down and noticed what I was standing on: it was an eye. And the eye was sitting in the palm of a hand. And the hand, I realized, was our Teacher's hand. Then I heard his voice, kindly and amused, saying, "See? You can run... You just can't run away."

1973年2月12日，在紐約飛往聖地牙哥的班機上，上人（56歲）說：「

『前謙寧靜恒授先，逸隱修持五朵蓮；

一九六八楞嚴會，宣揚佛教化有緣。』

把它記下來！這是一個秘密，不要讓旁人知道！在很多年以前，我就寫下這個偈頌。看到這個偈頌，妳們會知道妳們是誰了！」

次日早晨，在方居士的家，上人告訴恒持、恒賢和我：「昨天告訴妳們的偈頌，是我在母親墳上守孝期間（1936至1938年）所寫的，那時候六祖大師曾和我談到這些事情。我昨日觀察因緣，看出是讓妳們比丘尼知曉這事的時候了，這可是發生在幾十年前的事。」

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當我初遇上人時，只知兩件事：第一，在這多苦的世界，我已絕望地迷失；第二，上人能教我離苦，並助人離苦。

日復一日，年復一年，上人不厭不倦地闡說妙法，弟子們則受教隨學。但除此之外，我們也從上人的一言一行來學習；因為他言行如一，真正在生活中身體力行。慈悲喜捨是文字，但受到上人影響的都知道，在文字之外，上人是怎樣地認識我們、培育我們，並開發出我們自性中最好、最光明的一面。

幾年前，我夢見自己在宇宙的盡頭掉落下去，我回頭看地球，已經成了一粒小小的微塵。當我在一片眾星圍繞的黑暗之中站定，我向下一看，發現自己所站的地點：是一隻眼睛！這隻眼睛又生在一隻手掌上，而這隻手，竟是師父上人的手！我又聽見上人慈悲和悅的聲音：「看見沒有？妳可以跑……可是妳跑不掉！」