

REFLECTIONS IN THE WATER-MIRROR: TURNING THE TIDE OF DESTINY

水鏡回天錄白話解

黄山谷(續)

Huang Shangu

(continued)

宣公上人講於1987年6月26日 Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua on June 26, 1987 李淨如 英譯 Translated into English by Crystal Lee

有一次,他和畫馬名家李伯一起 去參訪高僧圓通秀禪師,秀禪師勸 誡李伯說:「不要將心念全部投注在 畫馬上,你若心心念念都是馬,形 隨心轉,將來恐怕難発墮落,投胎為 馬身。」黃山谷聽了,忍不住笑了出 來。

秀禪師便嚴詞義正的對黃山谷說: 「你不要笑!大丈夫懷才蓋世,難道 只用於寫誤導眾生的艷詞情詩嗎?」 黃山谷不以爲然,反駁說:「照您這 麼說,難道我以後也會墮落馬身嗎? 」「豈止墮落馬身,還會墮地獄呢! 因爲李伯心念在馬,所以墮落馬身也 只是他個人的事。而你寫艷詞情詩, 不知挑動天下多少人貪婬好色的心。 這種導人婬亂的行爲,怎麼不會墮地 獄呢?」

黃山谷畢竟是有善根的,被秀禪師 這一當頭棒喝,猛然醒悟其間的利害 關係,知道因果報應絲毫不爽,生大 慚愧,於是不再輕佻,發願永遠不再 寫浪漫的詩詞,改寫放生詩等。下列 One time, he went to visit Dhyana Master Yuan Tong Xiu with another artist, Libo, who specialized in painting horses. Dhyana Master Xiu said to Libo, "Don't focus all your attention on painting horses! If you always think of horses, your mind will only naturally follow those thoughts in your mind. Eventually, in the future, you might descend into the realm of animals and be reborn into a horse!" Hearing that, Huang Shangu could not contain himself and laughed.

Dhyana Master Xiu then turned to Huang Shangu sternly and said, "Don't you laugh! You are a man of talent, but do you only know how to write romantic poetry that misleads others?" Huang Shangu retorted, "According to you, I guess I will also descend into the body of a horse then, right?" Dhyana Master Xiu said, "Not only will you descend into the body of a horse, you will also fall into the hells. Because Libo always thinks about horses, being reborn in a horse body is only his business. But because you write romantic love poetry, you inadvertently trigger many people's lust and desires. Since this type of behavior leads others to debauchery, how can you not descend into the hells for this?"

Huang Shangu after all had good roots in the Dharma. After receiving Dhyana Master Xiu's severe warning which was like a timely blow on the head, he immediately awakened and realized his mistake. He knew that the retribution of cause and effect is never off in the least bit. Hence, he gave rise to great shame and remorse for what he had done. From that point onwards, he was no longer frivolous. He vowed to never write romantic poetry, opting instead to write poems on liberating life. The following poem on 'Giving Up Meat' is one of his well-known pieces on this theme.



這首著名的〈戒肉詩〉,就是出自他 的手筆。

> 我肉眾生肉 名殊體不殊 元同一種性 只是別形軀 苦惱從他受 肥甘為我需 莫教閻老斷 自揣看何如

後來黃山谷參學黃龍晦堂禪師多 年,見到僧人有許多開悟的,而自己 始終不悟,以爲黃龍禪師「重僧輕 俗」,時發怨言。黃龍禪師知其意, 但時機未到,無法下手教化,所以默 然不語。

有一次禪師教他參:「二三子以 我為隱乎?吾無隱乎爾!」這是《論 語》上的一句話,意思是你們這些弟 子,不要以為我對你們有什麼隱瞞? 我是開誠佈公的,可以傳給你們的, 早就傳給你們了,不要有所懷疑。黃 山谷心裏很納悶,自覺是個儒士, 怎麼會連《論語》上的這個道理都不 懂!就以爲師父故意刁難他,心裏很 不痛快。

有一次,時值秋天桂花盛開,滿寺 芬芳,香氣撲鼻,正逢黃山谷到寺裏 來。黃龍禪師知道時候到了,馬上抓 住機會問:「黃居士,你聞到花香了 嗎?」黃山谷一嗅,這時黃龍禪師點 他道:「吾無隱乎爾!」聞到桂花香 的是誰啊?我沒有隱藏什麼吧!這一 下,黃山谷忽然悟道了。就呈上一首 偈頌:

> 說是還家未到家 水邊林下舊生涯 昨夜月明雲散後 西風一樹木樨香

My flesh and sentient beings' flesh: Different in name but not in essence. They both are of the same nature, And vary only in shape and appearance. The pain they endure Fulfills that perverse desire of our taste buds. No need to ask King Yama your fate: You can ponder and figure it out yourself.

Later, Huang Shangu followed Dhyana Master Huang Long Huitang for many years. He had witnessed many Dharma Masters gaining awakening. However, he himself had no awakening throughout those years. He complained to Dhyana Master Huang Long that he was not treated fairly, that the attention and emphasis was often placed on the monastics rather than on laymen like himself. Dhyana Master Huang Long saw through his complaints, but the time was not yet right, so he was unable to teach him and remained silent.

On one occasion, Dhyana Master Huang Long taught him to investigate this topic: "Two or three disciples thought I was hiding something? I have nothing to hide!" This was an excerpt from the *Analects of Confucius*. In brief, it means, "Disciples, do not think that I have hidden anything from you. I am frank, sincere, and open. Everything that I could teach you, I already have. Have no doubts about that." Huang Shangu felt slightly puzzled. He was a Confucian scholar. How could it be possible for him not to understand what this quote from the *Analects* meant? He thought his Master was deliberately challenging him and felt offended.

One time in autumn, the entire monastery was full of the fragrance of the blooming sweet-osmanthus flowers. Huang Shangu was visiting the monastery at that time. Dhyana Master Huang Long knew that the time had come, and therefore took the opportunity to ask Shangu, "Upasaka Huang, do you smell the fragrance of the flowers?" Huang Shangu smelled the air, and at that moment, Dhyana Master Huang Long quickly added, "I have not hidden anything from you." Who could smell the flowers? No one is hiding anything from you! Suddenly, Huang was awakened, and he submitted a verse:

I may say that I'm heading home, but I haven't arrived yet. In the past I dwelt on a riverbank in the forest. Last night after the clouds cleared and the moon appeared, The westerly breeze brought the fragrance of the sweet-osmanthus.

STo be continued



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