

學佛行儀（讀書第九）

Deportment Guidelines for Buddhist Practitioners

(9. Readings)

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English Translated by Early Bird Translation Team

【白話】凡是出家人或在家居士閱讀書籍，都應該分辨其內容是否是邪說、正道，或者偏頗、不圓滿的教理。

如果自身智慧和能力充足，並且想了解佛教內外教法的深淺差異，可以翻閱中西宗教、經史子集、哲學等書籍。可粗略瀏覽，不要產生執著的心態。如果已經深入了解佛經，並發願廣度眾生，且為了因應眾生的不同需求而必須了解這些書籍，這種情況下可以稍微涉獵各類書籍。然而，在判斷是非對錯時，必須以佛經的教理作為標準。

至於尚未成年的幼童，為了解國民的普通教育知識，則不在此限制之內。

待續

When it comes to reading, whether one is a monastic or a layperson, it is important to discern right from wrong, the proper from the improper, and the perfect from the flawed.

For those who are quick-witted and eager to learn both Buddhist and non-Buddhist teachings, whether for general knowledge or a deeper understanding, studying the histories, religions, and philosophies of both the East and the West, as well as the writings and collections of renowned thinkers, can be valuable. However, it is advisable to approach such studies with a broad, general perspective rather than attaching to them.

Another exception to studying mundane teachings arises when one has already mastered the Buddhist canon and aspires to deliver teachings suited to the capacities of living beings. When determining standards of right and wrong, one should rely on the guidance of the sutras.

The final exception applies to school-age students who are required to study these subjects as part of their curriculum.

To be continued

陶淵明詩講錄（第十七講）（續）

Lectures on Tao Yuanming's Poems (Lecture seventeen)

(continued)

葉嘉瑩教授 講

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English Translated by Early Bird Translation Team

今天我們這一首，講的是第三種情形，是陶淵明真的見到與他互相知賞的那些朋友了。

「故人賞我趣，挈壺相與至」：他說，我的一些很欣賞我的老朋友，提著酒壺結伴來看我了。「趣」是什麼意思？那是屬於你感

The poem we are exploring today reflects the third scenario, where Táo Yuānmíng met friends who mutually appreciated and understood each other. “Old acquaintances who appreciated my taste arrived with wine kettles in hand.” Here, Táo Yuānmíng describes how some of his old friends, who truly valued him, came to visit, bringing wine kettles along.

What does “taste” mean in this context? It refers to a sensation or

覺中的一種味道。因為有時你可以感覺到跟這個人在一起，與跟那個人在一起的味道不同。

陶淵明做出種田歸隱的選擇，有很多人不能理解，但也有一些老朋友欣賞他這種做人的態度，或者說是一種做人的風味。所以他們結伴來看望他了。

來了之後，他們就「班荆坐松下，數斟已復醉」。「班荆」這個詞出於《左傳·襄公二十六年》「班荆相與食，而言復故」。

說的是兩個老朋友在道路上遇見了，他們就找了一些乾草鋪在地下，坐在上面吃東西聊天。

這正是寫一份故人的情趣。如果你請一個新朋友來做客，總要把房間打掃得乾淨整齊，不能讓他一進門就看到你房間裏亂七八糟的。可是你的老朋友早就認識你了，他對你從裏到外都知道得清清楚楚，你對他沒什麼可隱藏的，也用不著準備什麼宴席，不管是飲酒也好，喝茶也好，大家所追求的，是彼此知賞的一份情趣。

陶淵明院子裏不是有一棵松樹嗎？就是他「提壺撫寒柯，遠望時復爲」的那一棵。當老朋友到來的時候，他們把松樹下邊的草鋪一鋪平，就在那裏坐下來飲酒。

「數斟」，不一定是數杯。一杯酒，你喝了一點兒，再給你添上一點兒，就這樣斟了幾次，大家就都有些醉意了。中國的北方人常常說，朋友們經常在一起喝酒，感情就會越來越深厚。

這說法也不是完全沒道理。因為一個人喝酒的時候，就把那種計算利害得失的心放鬆了；而且俗話說「酒後吐真言」，平時你的頭腦保持警戒，內心有許多話不敢說或不好意思說，可是當喝醉酒的時候，就把最真誠的內心感情都說出來了。

◎待續

perception—your unique way of experiencing and responding to something. Sometimes, the feelings you have when spending time with one person differ greatly from those with another. While many people did not understand Táo Yuānmíng's decision to lead a reclusive life on a farm, there were still a few old friends who genuinely appreciated his attitude toward life and the “flavor” of his lifestyle. Therefore, they came together to visit him.

After they arrived, they “sat on the ground covered with hay (bān jīng 班荆) under a pine tree and became drunk again after being served wine a few times.” The phrase bān jīng 班荆 (“lay the hay”) originates from the *Zuǒ Zhuàn: The 26th Year of Duke Xiāng*, which states: “...they laid some hay on the ground, sat down to eat, and talked to each other as they had before.”

It describes two old friends meeting on the road, laying hay on the ground, and sitting together to eat and chat—a perfect portrayal of the quality time shared between old friends.

When inviting a new friend to your home, you might feel the need to tidy up thoroughly so they aren't greeted by a messy room upon arrival. However, with an old friend who has known you for a long time and understands you inside and out, there's no need for such pretenses. You don't have to prepare an elaborate banquet; a simple offering of wine or tea will suffice. What truly matters is the “taste” of mutual understanding and appreciation that defines your relationship.

Wasn't there a pine tree in Táo Yuānmíng's courtyard—the one mentioned in his poem:

*I lift my flask and hang it on a cold branch,
Gazing afar now and then?*

When his old friends visited, they flattened the grass under the pine tree and sat down to drink. The phrase “a few pours” doesn't necessarily mean a specific number of glasses. It could refer to one glass from which someone took a sip, followed by another adding a bit more wine, and so on. This could continue until everyone felt a little tipsy.

In Northern China, there's a saying that friends grow closer by drinking together. This idea holds true because drinking often helps people let go of the calculating mind that weighs benefits and losses. It's said that “you speak your heart after being drunk.” When sober, you may guard your thoughts, avoiding topics you're hesitant or embarrassed to share. But when drinking, you're more likely to reveal your most honest and heartfelt feelings.

◎To be continued