

On Teaching

Seventeen

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Beauty Longing For Itself

At the Heart of Lao Tzu, by Bruce Fertman

Many teachers teach what they know.

Teachers of the Way,

Teach what they do not know, and need to understand.

Some teachers think highly only of themselves.

Teachers of the Way,

Think highly of their students.

Many teachers teach to their students.

Teachers of the Way

Study with their students.

Some teachers teach to be the center of attention.

Teachers of the Way

Teach centered in attention.

Many teachers teach to escape.

Teachers of the Way

Teach for entrance into existence.

Some teachers want to be worshipped.

Teachers of the Way

Teach as a way of worshiping.

Many teachers need to prove they are the best.

Teachers of the Way

Teach not needing to prove or reprove. They simply approve.

Some teachers teach mainly for money.

Teachers of the Way

Freely choose what is required of them, doing so with gratitude and pleasure.

Many teachers teach to be seen as attractive.

Teachers of the Way

Teach because within everyone there is beauty longing for itself.