

This PDF is an excerpt from my book, ***I Ching Prescriptions***. It includes the inside cover, the *Afterword* where I write about my experience of getting an I Ching reading with all six lines changing and how José Argüelles fit into the reading. I also include a Prescription for hexagram 64.

I Ching Prescriptions can be ordered at Amazon soon.

I CHING PRESCRIPTIONS

CHOOSING CHANGE

By Adele Aldridge, Ph.D.



AFTERWORD

As I was completing this book I had an experience with the I Ching I will share with the reader. After the graphics were tweaked and changed, I had to add a few pages. There was nothing involved that should have taken me very long to do. Suddenly, BAM! I couldn't go on with the process. I could do anything else but finish this book. The feeling was something akin to having invisible, and yet very strong chains around me. I was desperate. I wished that I could talk to a therapist about my problem; not any therapist — one familiar with the I Ching. That wasn't going to happen. So, as is my habit, I decided to consult the I Ching about my block to completing this book, asking Carl Jung to speak to me through the I Ching since I could not speak to him directly. My logic in such imaginative questions is that it doesn't cost me anything, and maybe it will help me with my issue of being unable to proceed with finishing my book.

I threw the coins and got hexagram number 64, *Before Completion*. As usual, the I Ching reflected back to me exactly where I was — in the stage of just before completion of my book. But what rocked my mind was that all six lines were changing, and when all lines in the hexagram *Before Completion* change, the hexagram turns into number 63, *After Completion*. Perfect! I was stunned! For one thing, having all six lines change is a very very rare event. I contacted Luis

Andrade, an I Chinger I know of from the Internet. I figured he knows a lot about the I Ching in several languages and hoped he could tell me what the odds are for having all six lines change. Luis sent me a chart of the statistics of the varying odds of getting combinations of changing lines. If you have 3 yang lines and 3 yin lines that change to their opposites, the odds are 1 in 13,107 that you will receive this configuration.

There were a number of awesome aspects to this reading:

- That I got all changing lines, a chance of 1 in 13,107.
- The I Ching responded exactly to the dilemma I was asking about. It always does, but sometimes the response is not so obvious.
- The fact that I received all changing lines had yet another significance. The intent of this book, already discussed in the Introduction, is about treating the I Ching “as if” one got all moving lines when seeking guidance for a situation. The I Ching threw me back to myself.

When I settled down from my excitement and read what I had written for *Before Completion* in these *Prescriptions*, the advice seemed so obvious. I then thought, *Why am I not taking the advice I am giving here in this book? Why did I not prescribe for myself what the I Ching says in the situation of Before Completion?*

When I read my own prescription for

Before Completion, there it was: explaining, and advising just what I was working on. I skipped over the top paragraph for the general meaning of the hexagram and focused on what I had written for line 2,

“Moving slowly now is not the same as being lazy. Keep your eyes on the goal and you will get there when the time is right.”

And in line 4,

“Don’t doubt yourself now. You are in transition which is always a struggle. You are preparing for a new kind of future.”

If you have never consulted the I Ching by trusting the chance synchronicity of casting the coins you might think, “Well, so what?” about getting all changing lines.

If you are a person who is familiar with the I Ching you will appreciate my awe at this reading. You might wonder, how did this reading, so accurate and a chance of 1 in 13,107 effect me? Did I immediately get back to work? Was the block instantly removed? No, it was not. But if you are reading this, obviously I completed the book. What happened at this point was that my angst dropped away. I felt that I’m doing what I am supposed to be doing. The I Ching speaks to me so directly. I feel fortunate to be on this path that is full of rewards, with a heritage of nothing comparable. It’s interesting. It’s fun. It works.

Obviously, I still consult the I Ching’s wisdom by using the coins. But my lesson

here was to take my own medicine and use my *I Ching Prescriptions* when I feel the need.

I finished writing this first part of this *Afterword*. I needed a fresh eye and sent my manuscript to Dr. Katya Walter to see if she saw any errors or suggestions for improvement. Katya responded, catching some typos and said she felt I needed to elaborate more about my process when getting this hexagram with the six moving lines in *Before Completion*. I made all the corrections she suggested except for that last one.

I became blocked again. I should have read more carefully what I had written for the general meaning of *Before Completion*.

“This is the moment just before you bring something to conclusion. This is the place of potential. Everything is in proper order for a major transition. Even so, be wary. Don’t be smug or relax too much. Be on the lookout for unexpected events coming from outside that could prevent you from completing this task”.

On the morning of March 27, 2011 I signed on to the Internet to do my usual reading of various sites, one of them being Rob and Trish MacGregor’s blog on synchronicity (<http://www.synchrosecret.com/synchrosecret/>) where they have at times posted some of my own synchronistic experiences. The posting for the day was about the significance of the number 23. In the I Ching, number 23 is the hexagram called *Splitting Apart*. The article mentioned that Elizabeth Taylor

had died on the 23rd and then this one simple sentence:

"Jose Arguelles died. He was a visionary of the New Age movement."

I was stunned. Shocked. Saddened beyond words.

I first met José Argüelles in New York in February of 1973, shortly after he and his wife, Miriam wrote their book, *Mandala*. I again met José as my Core faculty from 1978 - 1981 while working on my Ph.D. at the The Union Institute University. My thesis was named *Art and The Personal Symbolic Process*. It included some of my earlier I Ching work. After graduating I created my limited edition version of that work. José wrote a Foreword for it.

There is no one I felt more spiritually connected to than José and as of this writing, have not yet absorbed this news as a full reality. Reading of his death certainly was that unexpected event coming from outside and again delayed completing the last section of this book.

There is more to the story of my I Ching reading, *Before Completion*. On March 19th I dreamed that José came to visit me. Although I had not seen him for 25 years, in the dream he looked the same. He was cheerful and said to me, "Adele, bring out the champagne. Let's celebrate together."

Like most dreams, that one was a mystery. What was José wanting to celebrate? I have been studying my dreams long enough to know that even if I didn't

understand it, the dream had meaning that would eventually reveal itself.

Four days later José died. When I heard of his death, the dream of his visit came back to my mind and it felt even more mysterious. I experienced the dream as a real visit, so I took the point of view that perhaps that was his way of saying good by and that he did not view death as sad, but as a celebration. Was that a rationalization? Perhaps. I spent the rest of that day doing nothing except for a taking a meditative walk in the woods. Then I looked again at what I had written in the sixth phase of *Before Completion*:

"Bring out the champagne and truly celebrate the beginning of a new era. Just try not to get drunk."

At every ending there is a new beginning."

As of this date, my interpretation of the dream is that Jose did in fact visit me in my dream. I am not advanced enough in my spiritual development to celebrate the death of anyone, especially someone I love. But had I not had the dream, had I not gotten stuck completing this piece of writing, had Katya not said to tell more about this process, I would not be writing so intimately about José Argüelles. I know he would celebrate with me the *Before Completion* turning into *After Completion* and here he is brought to our awareness in these pages.

Adele Aldridge, March 31, 2011

Prescription for 64. Before Completion



未濟

Wei Chi

Water

then

Fire

This is the moment just before you bring something to conclusion. This is the place of potential. Everything is in proper order for a major transition. Even so, be wary. Don't be smug or relax too much. Be on the lookout for unexpected events coming from outside that could prevent you from completing this task.

Bring out the champagne and truly celebrate the beginning of a new era. Just try not to get drunk.

At every ending there is a new beginning.

Phase 6

Yea! You did it! You move into a new era and it is time for celebration of completion of the old way.

Phase 5

Don't doubt yourself now. You are in transition which is always a struggle. You are preparing for a new kind of future.

Phase 4

You may feel too weak to continue. Don't give up. Get help. You don't have to do everything alone.

Phase 3

Moving slowly now is not the same as being lazy. Keep your eyes on the goal and you will get there when the time is right.

Phase 2

Don't be tempted to rush through the tasks necessary to complete your project. Hurrying can cause unforeseen delays.

Phase 1

The Six Phases  of Before Completion