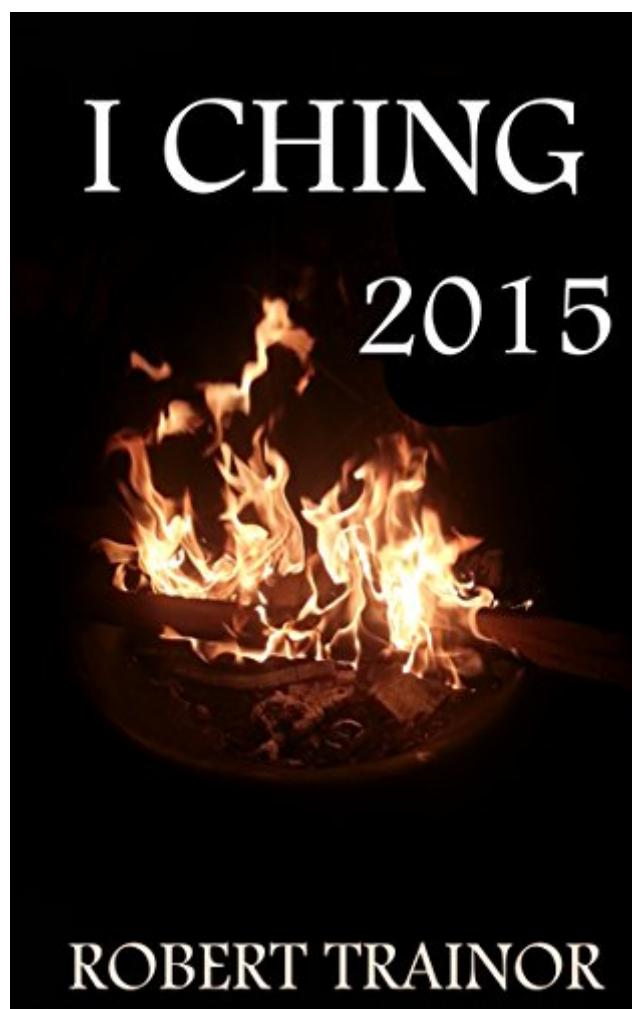


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# I CHING 2015



## Synopsis

I CHING 2015 contains a complete translation (minus the Confucian commentaries) of this ancient classic. Also included are detailed instructions on how to consult the I Ching using either yarrow stalks, coins, or dice. (For those who have been using coins, one should be aware that a significant error has crept into the method that many people use to cast an omen. This error, which involves using either three or four similar coins will seriously affect the accuracy of the omens you receive.) Additionally, I CHING 2015 contains extensive advice on how to interpret an omen. By using the correct method, you will be surprised at how much clearer omens become. As part of this advice, I have posed a number of questions to the I Ching and have then interpreted the omen I received. Finally, for each hexagram, as well as many of the lines in each hexagram, I have included my own observations as to the essential meaning of these hexagrams and lines. Now sixty-nine, I began using the I Ching when I was twenty-one; in those forty-eight years, I have consulted the I Ching, on average, at least six times a day, which means that I've received over 100,000 omens. So I really do have extensive hands-on experience! The text of the I Ching is often rather obscure, and while most translators have some practical experience with the I Ching, their translations are based more on the nuances of Chinese characters than the actual knowledge that comes from having received a particular hexagram well over a thousand times. Homeless during the 1970's, I have led a tempestuous life during which I encountered many dangerous situations and interesting opportunities. And as I faced literally life-changing decisions, the I Ching, which I had long since committed to memory, was always there beside me and led me to where I am today. Essentially, the I Ching is a mystical Taoist book that was set to words by the followers of Confucius. Confucianism is rather strict and is primarily concerned with morality, while the Taoists are much more practical and protective. Tao means way or path, and the path described by Taoism is based on living in harmony with nature. There are no Gods or religious figures to worship, and one is advised to follow the example of water, which makes no effort but always proceeds along the path of least resistance. The I Ching is, in a sense, a practical encyclopedia that contains the complete Taoist vision of how a person can live in this world. Basically, the I Ching looks through your eyes, perceives the world around you, and focuses on the problems that you are encountering. The underlying theme that runs throughout the I Ching is that you're a sincere and honest person who has been born into a world where you have to struggle with powerful and sometimes dangerous forces that are seemingly beyond your control. One would think that a book that was created thousands of years ago would contain, at best, a rather simplistic philosophy of life that is no longer relevant to a person living in the twenty-first century. Instead, one encounters a symbolic

world filled with vivid poetic images, a fantastic panorama where you are guided to the image that suits your situation and are then pointed in the right direction. Try to view the I Ching as a bizarre spiritual friend who just happens to be very intuitive. That's where these omens are coming from! And these omens, some of which border on ESP events, are all about the phenomenal insights and intuitions of your bizarre friend. You can't see this friend, but you know this friend is there, and if his/her advice and perceptions weren't so astute and accurate, you would have dropped this friend from your life a long time ago. But nowadays, good advice is hard to find, so that's why you've kept this friend around. And when times are rough and all hope seems lost, this is the friend that can and will save you.

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