

# In Beginningless Time...

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## Introduction

Here I start with a play on Genesis 1:1 (with deep respect for the tone and description in Genesis 1), then unfold a Zen Buddhist perspective (and this is always expressed in actual fact and reality, by the individual, working with Zen truth, the-individual-and-the-world, one place).

## The Text

In beginningless time, the Absolute “created” the heavens and the earth. Absolute Subjectivity, the interplay of the subjective and the objective, and the unfolding relative gave rise to this very world, and this very world is these.

The Tao is like the void, filled with numberless possibilities.

The Tao is smaller than an electron, containing countless galaxies.

The nondual is the real world.

When we see the fusion of the abstract and the concrete, we see the real world, before us.

The world is dependent arising.

Non-discriminating mind is key; and the world is neither being nor non-being.

Emptiness (sunnyata) is none other than form, form none other than emptiness; and likewise for the other skandhas (feeling, perceptions, impulse, consciousness).

There is the egolessness of things.

There is no-birth.

There is One Mind; and Zen is Mind-only, or Representation-only.

## **My Own “Contribution” To Genesis 1, The Profound And Elegant Story**

This is my own contribution, meant in the spirit of gesture and the Absolute:

“And God drew the planets with his hand.”

“And God brought His Awakening to the deep and the surface of the deep, and His Voice traveled over the waters.”

## **Influences, Practice, And Texts**

The Bible.

*The Gateless Barrier: Zen Comments On The Mumonkan* by Zenkei Shibayama.

*The Tao Te Ching* by Lao-Tzu, translated by Stephen Mitchell. There are many translations available, such as the ones by Gia-Fu Feng and Jane English, John C. F. Wu, James Legge, and Ursula K. Le Guin.

*The Lankavatara Sutra* translated by D. T. Suzuki (there is an epitomized version by Dwight Goddard based on this translation).

*The Diamond Sutra And The Sutra Of Hui-neng* translated by A. F. Price and Wong Mou-lam.

*Fundamental Wisdom Of The Middle Way* by Nagarjuna translated by Nishijima.

*The Heart Sutra.*

*Eloquent Silence* by Senzaki.

*Opening The Hand Of Thought: Foundations Of Zen Buddhist Practice* by Kosho Uchiyama.

*Moon In A Dewdrop: Writings Of Zen Master Dogen* edited by Tanahashi.

Zazen.

The koan.

Observation.

Contemplation.

The participant.

The everyday.

This world.