

ALLEGIANCE TO THE MOST
BELOVED

Make spring rise
from the palm of your hand



KOANS

only one koan matters

you

you stand inside me naked infinite love

the dawn bell rips my dreaming heart

we're lost where the mind can't find us

utterly lost

Ikkyu

trans. Stephen Berg

You can't light a lamp—there's no oil in the house.

It's a shame to want a light.

I have a way to bless this poverty :

Just feel your way along the wall.

Yinyuan Longqi

In the dark, darken further

Daodejing

When Qiyuan Xinggang had a profound opening, her teacher asked, "What was it like when you were gestating the spiritual embryo?"

She replied, "It solidified, deep and solitary."

"When you gave birth, what was that like?"

"Being stripped completely bare."

"What about when you met the Ancestor?"

"I met the Ancestor face to face."