

Make the Mountains Dance

Koans, Freedom, & Love

July 8 - 9, 2005

If we were not so single minded about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
Perhaps a huge silence might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with death.

Pablo Neruda



A woman asked, "What is Zen?"

"The heart of the one who asks is Zen," an old Chinese teacher replied.



Someone asked, "One of the ancestors said that everyone has it, but I'm covered with the
dusts of the world and don't know whether I do or not."

Caoshan said, "Show me your hand." Then he pointed to the questioner's fingers: "One, two,
three, four, five. Enough!"



Quickly, without thinking good and evil, before your parents were born – what is your original
face?



Shoushan said to his assembly, "If you get it the first time you hear it, you will be the
teacher of the buddhas and ancestors. If you get it the second time you hear it, you will be the
teacher of gods and humans. If you get it the third time, you can't even save yourself."

A monk asked, "When did you get it?"

Shoushan said, "The moon sets at midnight; I walk alone through the town."



Make the mountains dance

Joan Sutherland The Open Source Project



Linji said, "There is nothing I dislike."



How does Guanyin use all those hands and eyes?
It's like someone in the middle of the night,
reaching behind her head for a pillow.