

《 井の中の蛙 》

★且夫知不知是非之竟，

知識が真偽を正確に評価できないほど貧弱なのに，

And moreover, when you, who have not wisdom enough to know

where the discussions about what is right and what is wrong should end,

★而猶欲觀於莊子之言，

莊子を理解しようと試みることは，

still desire to see through the words of Zhuangzi,

★是猶使蚊負山，

蚊が山を運ぼうとし，

that is like employing a mosquito to carry a mountain on its back,

★商鉅馳河也，

虫が河を泳ぎ渡ろうと試みるようなものだ。

or a millipede to gallop as fast as the Ho runs

★必不勝任矣。

勿論，失敗さ。

- tasks to which both the insects are sure to be unequal.

★且夫知不知論極妙之言，

その上，その知識が最も精妙な教えに達するのにほど遠い人が，

Still further, when you, who have not wisdom enough to know the words

employed in discussing very mysterious subjects,

★而自適一時之利者，

一時的に間に合わせの成功で満足すること，

yet hasten to show your sharpness of speech on any occasion
that may occur,

★是非埒井之鼃與？

泉の中の蛙のようなものでないかね。

is not this being like the frog of the dilapidated well?

(秋水) (秋の洪水)

(autumnal floods)