## Song of the Jewel Mirror Awareness <sup>(1)</sup>

The Dharma of thusness

Is intimately communicated by Buddhas and Ancestors;

Now you have it,

Keep it well.

• Filling a **sil**ver bowl with snow,

*Hiding a heron in the* moonlight —

When you array them, they're **not** the same;

When you mix them, you know where they are.

The meaning is **not** in the words,

Yet it re*sponds to the inquiring* impulse.

If you're excited, it becomes a pitfall;

If you miss it you fall into retrospective hesitation.

Turning away and touching are both wrong,

For it is *like a mass of* fire.

Just to depict it in **lit**erary form

Is to *relegate it to de*filement.

It is bright **just** at midnight;

It doesn't appear at dawn.

It acts as a **guide** for beings —

Its use removes all pains.

Although it is **not** fabricated,

It is *not without* speech.

It is like facing a **je**wel mirror;

*Form and image behold each* other —

You are **not** it,

It is actually you.

It is like a **babe** in the world,

In five aspects complete;

It does not **come** nor go,

Nor rise nor stand.

"Baba **wa**wa" —

Is there *anything said* or not?

Ultimately, it does not apprehend anything,

Because its speech is not yet correct.

It is like the six lines of the **double** split hexagram;

The relative and absolute integrate —

Piled up, they make three;

The complete transformation makes five.

It is like the taste of the **five**-flavored herb,

Like the diamond thunderbolt.

Subtly included within the true,

*Inquiry and response come up together.* 

Communing with the source and communing with the process.

It includes integration and includes the road;

Merging is au**spi**cious;

Do not violate it.

Naturally real yet **in**conceivable,

It is not within the province of delusion or enlightenment.

With causal conditions, **time** and season,

Quiescently it shines bright.

In its fineness, it **fits** into spacelessness;

In its *greatness*, it is utterly beyond location.

A hairsbreadth **de**viation

Will fail to accord with the proper attunement.

Now there are **sud**den and gradual,

In connection with which are set up basic approaches.

Once basic approaches are distinguished,

Then there are guiding rules.

But even though the **ba**sis is reached and the approach comprehended,

True eternity still flows.

Outwardly still while inwardly moving,

Like a *tethered colt*, a trapped rat —

The ancient saints pitied them,

And bestowed upon them the teaching.

According to their delusions,

They called *black as* white —

When erroneous imaginations cease,

The acquiescent mind realizes itself.

If you want to conform to the ancient way,

Please observe the ancients of former times.

When about to fulfill the way of Buddhahood,

One gazed at a tree for ten aeons,

• Like a tiger leaving **part** of its prey,

A horse with a white left hind leg.

Because there **is** the base,

[There are] jewel pedestals, fine clothing;

Because there is the startling difference,

[There are] house, cat, and cow.

(cue by officiant's bow at right of altar) • Yi, with his archer's skill,

Could hit a target at a hundred paces;

But when arrow **points** meet head on,

What has this to do with the power of skill?

When the wooden man begins to sing,

The stone woman gets up to dance.

It's not within the reach of **feel**ing or discrimination —

How could it admit of consideration in thought?

A minister **serves** the lord,

A son obeys the father.

Not obeying is **not** filial, not *serving is no* help.

Practice intimately, working within,

As though a fool, like an idiot.

- 1 If you can achieve continuity,
- 1 This is called the host within the host. (damp all bells)