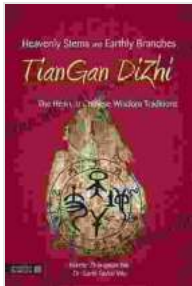


Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches: A Comprehensive Guide to Tiangan Dizhi



Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches - TianGan DiZhi: The Heart of Chinese Wisdom Traditions by Zhongxian Wu

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 331 pages



Tiangan Dizhi, or the Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches, is an essential component of Chinese astrology, metaphysics, and calendrical systems. It is a complex yet fascinating system that has been used for centuries to understand the natural world, human affairs, and the cosmic order. This comprehensive guide will delve into the significance, principles, and applications of Tiangan Dizhi, providing a deeper understanding of this ancient Chinese tradition.

The Heavenly Stems

The Heavenly Stems consist of ten symbols:

- Jia 甲
- Yi 乙

- Bing 丙
- Ding 丁
- Wu 戊
- Ji 己
- Geng 庚
- Xin 辛
- Ren 壬
- Gui 癸

Each Heavenly Stem is associated with an element (wood, fire, earth, metal, and water) and a yin or yang polarity. The Stems also have a numerical value ranging from 1 to 10.

The Earthly Branches

The Earthly Branches consist of twelve symbols representing animals of the Chinese zodiac:

- Rat 子
- Ox 丑
- Tiger 寅
- Rabbit 卯
- Dragon 辰
- Snake 巳
- Horse 午

- Goat 未
- Monkey 申
- Rooster 酉
- Dog 戌
- Pig 亥

Each Earthly Branch is associated with an animal, a direction, a season, and an element. The Earthly Branches also have a numerical value ranging from 1 to 12.

The Sixty-Year Cycle

The Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches are combined to form a 六十-year cycle known as the Jiazi cycle. Each year is represented by a unique combination of a Heavenly Stem and an Earthly Branch. The cycle begins with Jiazi (甲子) and ends with Guichou (癸丑).

The 六十-year cycle is used to calculate a person's birth year, which is believed to influence their personality, fortunes, and destiny. It is also used in Chinese astrology to predict future events, determine auspicious dates, and select favorable names.

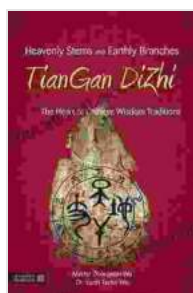
Applications of Tiangan Dizhi

Tiangan Dizhi is applied in various aspects of Chinese culture, including:

- **Astrology:** Predicting future events, calculating personal fortunes, and determining auspicious dates.

- **Medicine:** Diagnosing illnesses, selecting treatments, and understanding the body's energy flow.
- **Feng Shui:** Harmonizing living spaces, selecting auspicious locations, and improving energy flow.
- **Geomancy:** Analyzing landforms, determining auspicious burial sites, and predicting future occurrences.
- **Martial Arts:** Understanding energy principles, predicting opponent's movements, and developing combat strategies.

Tiangan Dizhi is a complex and multifaceted system that plays a vital role in Chinese culture. Its principles and applications provide a rich framework for understanding the natural world, human affairs, and the cosmic order. By exploring the significance, principles, and applications of Tiangan Dizhi, we gain a deeper appreciation for the wisdom and complexity of this ancient tradition.

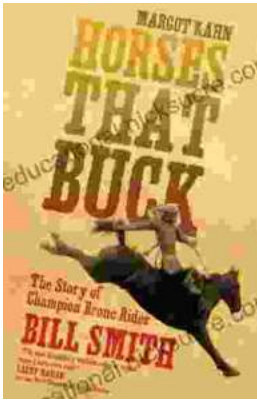


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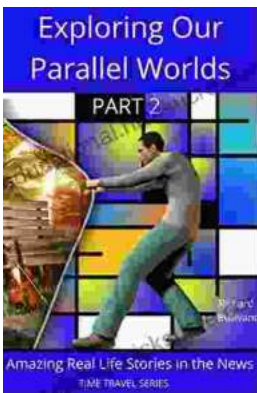
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