

Big Lots Inc BIG under CEO Bruce Thorn



6		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
5		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
4		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
3		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
2		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
1		H	H	T		3	3	2		8

### HEXAGRAM 39 – Chien - Obstruction

Above K'AN THE ABYSMAL, WATER  
 Below KEN KEEPING STILL, MOUNTAIN

The hexagram **pictures**

- a dangerous abyss lying before us and
- a steep, inaccessible mountain rising behind us.

**We are surrounded by obstacles;**

at the same time,

since the mountain has the attribute of keeping still,  
 there is implicit a **hint as to how we can extricate ourselves.**

The hexagram **represents** obstructions  
 that appear in the course of time but  
 that **can and should be** overcome.

Therefore

**all the instruction given is directed to overcoming them.**

### THE JUDGMENT

OBSTRUCCION.

- The southwest furthers.
- The northeast does not further.
- It furthers one to see the great man.

Perseverance brings good fortune.

The southwest is the region of retreat,  
the northeast that of advance.

Here

an individual is **confronted** by obstacles that  
**cannot be** overcome directly.

In such a situation

it is wise

- to pause in view of the danger and
- to retreat.

However,

this is merely a preparation for overcoming the obstructions.

One must

- join forces with friends of like mind and
- put himself under the leadership of a man equal to the situation:

then

one will succeed in removing the obstacles.

This **requires** the will to persevere

just when

one apparently must do something that leads away from his goal.

This **unswerving inner purpose** brings good fortune in the end.

**An obstruction that lasts only for a time is useful for self-development.**

**This is the value of adversity.**

## **THE IMAGE**

Water on the mountain:

The image of OBSTRUCTION.

Thus the superior man

- turns his attention to himself And
- molds his character.

**Difficulties and obstructions throw a man back upon himself.**

While

- the inferior man
  - seeks to put the blame on other persons, bewailing his fate,
- the superior man
  - seeks the error within himself, and through this introspection
- the external obstacle becomes for him an occasion for
  - inner enrichment and
  - education.

## **THE LINES**

Six at the top means:

Going leads to obstructions,  
Coming leads to great good fortune.  
It furthers one to see the great man.

This refers to  
a man who has **already left** the world and its tumult behind him.  
When the time of obstructions arrives,  
it **might seem** that the simplest thing for him to do would be to

- **turn his back** upon the world and
- **take refuge** in the beyond.

But this road is **barred** to him.

He

- **must not seek his own salvation and**
- **abandon the world to its adversity.**

**Duty calls him back once more into the turmoil of life.**

Precisely because of his

- experience and
  - inner freedom,
- he is able to create something both
- **great and**
  - **complete**

that brings good fortune.

And it is **favorable** to see the great man in alliance with whom  
one can **achieve the work of rescue.**

## **MOVING HEXAGRAM**

### **HEXAGRAM 53 – Chien - Development (Gradual Progress)**

Above SUN THE GENTLE, WIND, WOOD  
Below KEN KEEPING STILL, MOUNTAIN

This hexagram is made up of

- Sun (wood, penetration) above, i.e., without, and
- Ken (mountain, stillness) below, i.e., within.

A tree on a mountain

- **develops** slowly according to the law of its being and consequently
- **stands** firmly rooted.

This gives the idea of

**a development that proceeds gradually, step by step.**

The attributes of the trigrams also point to this:

- **within is tranquility,**
  - **which guards against precipitate actions, and**
- **without is penetration,**
  - **which makes development and progress possible.**

## THE JUDGMENT

### DEVELOPMENT.

The maiden

Is given in marriage.

Good fortune.

Perseverance furthers.

1. The development of events that leads to a girl's following a man to his home proceeds slowly. The various formalities must be disposed of before the marriage takes place.

This principle of gradual development can be applied to other situations as well; it is always applicable where

2. it is a matter of correct relationships of co-operation, as for instance in the appointment of an official.

The development must be allowed to take its proper course. Hasty action would not be wise.

This is also true, finally, of

3. any effort to exert influence on others, for here too

the essential factor is a correct way of development through cultivation of one's own personality.

No influence such as that exerted by agitators has a lasting effect.

Within the personality too, development must follow the same course if lasting results are to be achieved.

Gentleness

- that is adaptable,
- but at the same time penetrating,

is the outer form that should proceed from inner calm.

The very gradualness of the development makes it necessary to have perseverance, for perseverance alone prevents slow progress from dwindling to nothing.

## THE IMAGE

On the mountain, a tree: The image of DEVELOPMENT.

Thus the superior man abides in dignity and virtue, In order to improve the mores.

The tree on the mountain

- is visible from afar, and
- its development influences the landscape of the entire region.

It does not shoot up like a swamp plant;

its growth proceeds gradually.

Thus also

the work of influencing people can be only gradual.

No sudden influence or awakening is of lasting effect.

Progress must be quite gradual, and

in order to obtain such progress

- in public opinion and

- in the mores of the people,

it is necessary for the personality to acquire

- influence and

- weight.

This comes about through careful and constant work on one's own moral development.