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1 道可道非常道。

名可名非常名。

無名天地之始；^u

有名萬物之母。^u

5 故 常無欲以觀其妙；ⁿ

常有欲以觀其徼。ⁿ

此兩者、同出而異名。

同謂之玄。

玄之又玄，

10 衆妙之門。

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- ¹ A way that can be spoken is not the constant Dao.
A name that can be named is not the constant Name.
Nameless: The beginning of the heavens and earth.
Named: The mother of the myriad beings.
- ⁵ Thus, Constantly desireless, one may observe its subtlety.
Constantly desiring, one may observe its boundaries.
- These two emerge from sameness, but differ in name.
This sameness is called mysterious.
Mysterious and again more mysterious—
- ¹⁰ The gateway to all that is wondrous.