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**Escape**  
**by David M. Valadez**

Deshi: Sensei, I know what I want in regards to the Way, and I know what it takes to follow the Way, but still it eludes me. What is it that I am missing still?

Sensei: In all that you already know, there are still two things that you do not know.

Deshi: What are those things?

Sensei: While you know what you want, you have not yet understood how far back you must go in order to fulfill your desire - nor have you come to understand exactly how you can go back to where you must go. Fulfilling a desire is seldom a thing of simply wanting "x." It almost always involves a process of organizing other things, things further up the causal chain of one's existence, in order to come up with what it is that one feels they want. Hence, "x" is by necessity preceded by "s," "t," "u," "v," and "w." Only then does "x" become possible and truly desirable. Before this, only delusion exists. We cannot fulfill ourselves in delusion. We can only deceive ourselves into believing we are fulfilled.

Deshi: Then what happens?

Sensei: Eventually we realize we are unfulfilled. Thus, we come to desire more, but being ignorant of how we are supposed to address this desire, we repeat the cycle all over again with more delusion.

Deshi: Is there no escape?

Sensei: Yes, there is.