

Knowing and Forgetting in the Zhuangzi

Lam Hon Ki

In the Zhuangzi, *zhi* 知 (knowledge, knowing, consciousness) is an interesting, yet confusing notion in the *Zhuangzi*. On one hand, the *Zhuangzi* seems to be skeptical about our capacity to *zhi*, on the other hand, the text seems to suggest a great *zhi* over small *zhi*. Different approaches have tried to solve this apparent contradiction. In this paper, I will examine those approaches and propose another way to understand *zhi*. I will suggest that in order to fully grasp the notion of *zhi*, we need to pay attention to the notion of forgetting in the *Zhuangzi*. I will propose that forgetting is an indispensable epistemic virtue in the Zhuangist philosophy.