A Fu Talisman for Travel Protection

The following Fu talisman uses only glyphs, symbols, and principles covered in *The Tao of Craft* to demonstrate the application of the book’s instruction in actual sigil crafting. This travel protection talisman is pictured in the book in Figure 4.17, page 87. Keep it near you or with your luggage when you travel long distances or keep one in the glove compartment of your car to help ward danger.

The sigil’s symbolic meaning is also covered in the book, so to understand the anatomy of the main sigil in this talisman, read the accompanying text for Figure 4.17 in the text.

In the completed sigil design pictured above, the top bar of the talisman reads “一路平安” (Yī Lù Píng An) or “Safe Journeys Ahead,” a blessing featured in Appendix B, page 354. The bottom bar reads “永保壽考” (Yǒng Bǎo Shòu Kǎo), “Protect Perpetually; Ensuring a Long, Peaceful Life,” featured on page 352.
For power amplification, the background features both the Early Heaven and Later Heaven Ba Gua. In the four corners are additional Qi energy amplifiers, as noted in Figure B.63, page 396.

At your option, choose one of two ways to prepare this talisman. It can either be used in its paper form as a Fu or the energy of the Fu can be transferred to a charm or car ornament. The latter mode of sigil activation, i.e., energy transference, is covered on page 241.

For both methods, start with the paper talisman. Prepare the paper talisman on white or yellow paper, printed as illustrated, with the red, black, and gray ink. You can either follow the illustration and draw the sigil by hand or you can print it out in color. Observe consecration techniques as noted in The Tao of Craft. It is best to prepare the paper talisman during a waxing gibbous moon, close to the full moon. When complete, set the talisman on your altar or protected in established sacred space.

On the eve of the full moon, light incense that amplifies power, such as sandalwood, cedar wood, bergamot, frankincense, or myrrh, etc. Use of incense is covered in the text and you may want to refer back to the Table 6.3 in the text, page 135, an incense correspondence chart.

After sacred space has been established, proceed with the 108 recitations. Page 204 explains why the 108 recitations are applied. Read about invocations starting on page 144. To charge this sigil, you will need to invoke a patron deity or omnipotent Divine from a universe of discourse that resonates with you. In other words, invoke the primary deity (or deities in the plural; more than one can be invoked) you venerate and that you have established attunement with. For illustration purposes only, the deity invoked here will be Di Zhang Wang [地藏王菩薩] (or Ksitigarbha) from the Buddhist (and also Taoist) pantheon. An entry on De Záng Wáng Púsà is in Appendix B under “Buddhist Influences on the Pantheon.” Note: Within the universe of discourse for Di Zhang Wang, when invoked for divine protection, the bodhisattva will send dragons and devas (angels/archangels) to protect you. Di Zhang Wang is invoked to help safeguard against disasters and troubles, especially while on travels.
Where you see references to Di Zhang Wang in the recitation instructions below, substitute with the Divine language that resonates with you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Replace this line with a mantra or incantation for invoking the patron deity (or deities).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>†</td>
<td>If preparing this talisman for another, replace “me” with the name of the beneficiary to be protected.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Namo De Záng Wáng Púsà †</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I call upon your protection to safeguard me against every harm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send your dragons and devas to protect me always ‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This charm I cast shall be an everlasting shield and refuge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yī Lù Píng An; Yǒng Bǎo Shòu Kǎo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe journeys ahead; protected perpetually, a long life ensured.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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You can use mala prayer beads strung with 108 beads to help you keep count. During the recitations, pass the paper talisman through the incense smoke. As you do so, envision the power of Heaven manifesting in the smoke, getting infused into the talisman. Meanwhile, from your hand holding the talisman, envision your own personal energy and power channeling through your body, concentrating at the tips of your fingers, and getting transferred over and absorbed into the Fu talisman. That is the visualization to focus on as you perform the 108 recitations.

When complete, seal the Fu at the center point inside the two Ba Guas. Sealing is explained in the section “The Seal” starting on page 95 of the book and “Practitioner’s Seal” on page 115.

Stamping the Fu Talisman with the Practitioner’s Seal
As a Paper Talisman

If for long distance travel and sojourning, tuck into your luggage. For your motor vehicle, tuck into the glove compartment. *Note.* For motor vehicle travel protection, the sigil design can also be printed onto a customized window decal or transparent car sticker to affix to your windshield or one placed along the rear window.

Burning the Sigil with a Working Candle and Collecting Its Ashes for Energy Transference

Energy Transference into a Charm or Car Accessory

For a general protection talisman while you drive, select a car accessory or charm that you want to hang in your vehicle and first cleanse, energetically clear, and consecrate the item. Consecration techniques are explained in Chapter 7 of the book. Consecrating the car accessory or charm first removes any previous unwanted imprints of energy. If for personal travel, you can transfer the energy of the protection talisman into jewelry that you intend on wearing everyday of your excursion.

During the full moon that you empower the paper talisman, after sealing the Fu, light the paper talisman and burn it in a fire-safe container until all of it becomes ash. In my personal practice, I like to light the fire from a working candle. Then quickly drop the flaming paper talisman into a fire-proof container and let it burn out. *Note.* There is specialty joss paper, thin and commonly made of rice, which can be drawn or printed on if you intend to burn the sigils for energy transference. Although not required for spell-crafting purposes, the joss paper does ensure safer and cleaner burning.

Once to ash, transfer the ash into a consecrated container with a lid (large enough to hold the accessory or charm you have selected) and place the accessory or charm atop the ash. Leave it overnight through the full moon. Afterward, the sigil’s energy will have transferred and the charm or accessory will have become empowered for travel protection.
Optional: Along with the ash, you can mix in consecrated sea salt and crushed dried herbs that hold metaphysical protective qualities, such as acorns, allspice, amaranth, anemone, angelica root, star anise, basil, bay leaves, persimmon leaves, bergamot, caraway seeds, catnip, cedar, chives, cloves, coriander, cumin, fennel seeds, flax seeds, garlic, ginger, lotus root, marjoram, mimosa, myrrh, nutmeg, peach tree leaves, peony, peppermint, mint, rosemary, rowan wood, sunflower seeds, willow, etc., any combination thereof.

Modifications to the Sigil Instructions

Yes, of course you may (and probably should) make modifications to the sigil design and instructions noted here so that it aligns better with your personal practice and also with what resources you have available on hand. Be mindful of the 13 principles addressed in Chapter 3 for powerful, effective craft.

Important Note

I encourage anyone who seeks to use this Fu talisman instruction to first order a copy of The Tao of Craft and help support the book’s success. The spirit behind this note is akin to the beneficiary’s vow, discussed in Chapter 8, page 221. Use of the sigil design provided here and/or executing the instructions for crafting this Fu talisman without first having purchased a copy of The Tao of Craft is not advised.

To learn more about the history and cultural practice of Fu talismans and sigil crafting in the Eastern esoteric traditions, get your copy of The Tao of Craft: Fu Talismans and Casting Sigils in the Eastern Esoteric Tradition (North Atlantic Books, 2016).
Note. Print the same sigil design twice, for a double-sided paper talisman.

After printing double-sided, cut out the rectangular talisman with a white border, so there is about a 0.25” to 0.50” white border around the red border.
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