



# The Science of Destiny Reading Using **BaZi**

Demystifying BaZi  
the Logical Way

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# Chapter 1



## Understanding BaZi with the Right Mindset



In modern society, most people who consider themselves well educated do not easily believe in fortune-telling. Many simply disregard it as superstition, or worse yet, as a scam designed to skim money off those who fall for it. Indeed, such scams do exist in all societies, and once in a while we read about them.

I also consider myself an educated person and a man of science. I received an advanced degree in science and engineering from a top university in Taiwan, and I have been a faculty member of a national university. For over a decade, I have taught classes in the field of engineering, led research labs, published papers in most reputable international journals, and advised many Ph.D. student.

Because of that, when my wife sought the consultation of BaZi fortune-telling years ago, it was hard for me to take it seriously. Nevertheless, some of the analysis appeared to check out. This made me wonder whether BaZi, being the most popular and widely accepted form of fortune-telling in Chinese society, could have some truth behind it. Out of curiosity, I started to collect all the material on BaZi I could find and began to study them. Aside from my work, I spent a lot of time

gathering and comparing information from different schools of BaZi practitioners. I cross-checked their theories against real case samples, in hopes to reveal any real essence that is hidden beneath layers of myths and superstitions.

The art of BaZi analysis developed over the course of hundreds of years. Practitioners learned what they knew as an apprentice from their masters. Few of those practitioners had any academic training in logic and science. Therefore, most of the theories on the market are not only fragmented but also illogical. But after years of study, I was able to derive a BaZi system that I am convinced to be not only logical but also applicable to almost all scenarios. With that, I am also able to explain why some schools of BaZi practitioners, with their traditional teachings, could be accurate in some cases while totally off the mark in others.

Unlike most of the traditional methods that have been passed down for generations with no logic or theory behind them, the BaZi analysis I developed follows a systematic and logical approach. Through years of personal practice, I am convinced that the system I have developed can and have indeed been quite accurate. Some may challenge that without total accuracy and a scientific way of measurement, this cannot be trusted as a meaningful indication. But many natural phenomena were observed by our ancestors long before scientists could have measured them. Furthermore, even with modern technology, meteorologists still cannot be completely accurate in forecasting the weather just 10 days in advance. The course of a person's life lasts decades and can be affected

by so many factors (genes, education, environment, and so on). To expect that we can use a single factor to predict outcomes is probably not practical. However, if a systematic method can indeed tell a person's character, as well as the relative ups and downs throughout their life, it is, in my opinion, something worth studying. The BaZi analytic system that I have developed is, through my practice with hundreds of cases, a system that does just that.

## **The Limitations of the Traditional BaZi Methods**

Through my research, I have realized that each traditional BaZi school has its limitations and blind spots. This is not to say that mine is flawless (in fact, I believe that there is always room in my system for improvement). The point is that, with a modern education and training in analytic thinking, we should be able to study BaZi from a new perspective that is much different from traditional rules and methods.

The traditional way of learning BaZi requires memorizing some tables and rules. These tables and rules are not only hard to memorize but also illogical. Furthermore, each table and rule has cases of exceptions, which require further memorization. During my study of BaZi, I found that this was the case for most books and scripts on BaZi, including the ancient and most famous ones.

Such a method of rote memorization might have been the best way of passing on knowledge in the past, when people rarely received any training in science and logic. The problem, however, is that those trained under such systems could only deal with cases that they were taught. They could not handle cases that they were not taught. Also, as most of the knowledge was acquired through memorization, any piece of information that was incorrectly memorized would also be passed on. This is why the traditional BaZi methods can only be partly accurate in some cases.

My system, on the contrary, was developed purely around the fundamental principle of yin-yang and the interrelationship among the Five Elements. With a few simple and logical rules, we can derive all we need to know. Since we derive our results through logical analysis, as opposed to the old-school method of looking up tables, there is no exceptional case or case not covered. With our analytical method, we can even tell under what scenarios the traditional methods will miss the mark.

I do not intend to criticize the works of our ancestors. In fact, it is because of their work that my study became possible. But I do believe that we should not dwell on the old approach, which was developed with the limitations of the past that are no longer relevant. The lack of consistent logic indeed made the old approach less accurate and invites suspicion among those in modern society.

## Our Vision

The prevalence of information on the Internet has made research on BaZi so much easier these years. Unlike practitioners in the past who had to rely on cases of people close by, those who study BaZi today have access to a lot more information and to cases from around the world. They can study celebrities' life events on the news. With a systematic approach, this enables one to more efficiently refine the theory of BaZi, weeding out myths and misconceptions quickly.

That said, I still come across a lot of illogical or wrong information about BaZi on the Internet. Some information can be ridiculously wrong. This is probably why some people have dismissed the theory of BaZi as baloney, a cheap trick to sell snake oil. Fortunately, throughout the years of my practice, I have helped many people learn the theory I have developed. Most people I helped came to respect BaZi as a serious art of destiny reading.

Unlike some practitioners who judge their clients' fate as absolute, the way I practice is simply to help my clients make informed decisions. These include reminding them to be cautious when there are hazards ahead, encouraging them when they are at low points in their lives by showing them the light at the end of the tunnel, advising them whether the timing is good for being on the offensive or defensive. I practiced based on the system I developed and conducted counseling sessions over one-to-one conversations. I was able to win their trust by telling them things that have happened in

their lives, and further removed their worries and confusions by pointing out situations ahead.

The more I study and practice, the more I am convinced that BaZi is a serious subject, discovered by our ancestors and passed down to us. It is a valuable asset worthy of further research and study. It is my vision that someday BaZi will no longer be treated as a myth but recognized as a valuable method that helps improve people's lives. The goal of this book is to convey four core principles for those who are interested in studying BaZi:

- 💧 Study it from a logical perspective
- 💧 Remove myths and extract real knowledge
- 💧 Help people deal with their troubles
- 💧 Improve lives

The knowledge passed on by the ancient books is not all false. In fact, it contains all the gems of the essence of BaZi, based on which we can build on what we know. But over the course of centuries, real knowledge is inevitably mixed with, or worse, buried under a lot of false information. I hope that with the modern method of systematic research, we can to the greatest extent restore BaZi to the way it should be.

In this book, we will introduce the knowledge of BaZi in the following order:



- ◆ **Chapter 2:** Present real cases to illustrate how BaZi can be applied in real life, and in what way it can help people.
- ◆ **Chapter 3:** Introduce the basic elements on which the system of BaZi is constructed, such as the Five Elements, the Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches, the twelve Solar Terms, and the Ten Spirits.
- ◆ **Chapter 4:** Show readers how to conduct a basic analysis of BaZi to judge an individual's basic personality and characteristics, as well as their strengths, weaknesses, best-fit careers, and health conditions.
- ◆ **Chapter 5:** Illustrate how to put the BaZi of a person together with his Grand Fortune, the Year Flow, and Month Flow to analyze luck during different periods of life, and use the information to seize opportunities or avoid hazards.
- ◆ **Chapter 6:** Present more advanced topics that help readers further strengthen their BaZi analytic skills. Those who wish to use BaZi to help others should learn this.
- ◆ **Chapter 7:** Discuss some commonly seen theories of traditional BaZi, and how and why they can be inaccurate.
- ◆ **Chapter 8:** Share a few tips with those who want to practice BaZi counseling. The conducts that should be adopted as well as the mental qualities required to be a good practitioner.

# Chapter 2



## Real Cases of BaZi Analysis



**B**efore we introduce the theory of BaZi, we will present a few real cases of BaZi analysis in this chapter. I have accumulated hundreds of case studies from my consulting practice in the past years, but I chose these cases as they are more representative for the purpose of learning BaZi. Here, in this chapter, I will present only the cases and the results. In Chapter 5, we will revisit each case and understand how we arrived at the conclusions of the analyses. Readers who study this book carefully will be able to solve similar cases in the future.

## Case Study 1

### Ankylosing spondylitis

One day, in 2012, I was having a casual conversation with one of my graduate students. He mentioned that he did not have to serve in the military (one-year military service is mandatory for all males in Taiwan, unless one is physically or mentally unfit for such duty). I was curious and asked

him why. He told me that he was suffering from ankylosing spondylitis.

As a BaZi practitioner, I was intrigued. I suspected that his ankylosing spondylitis should have something to do with countered Wood in his BaZi, and I asked for his birth date and time to build his BaZi chart, which was just as I had expected. I then asked him if he has had any serious conditions in the past two years (2010 and 2011). He immediately said yes. Although he showed no symptoms in 2012, he did suffer severely in 2011 and 2010, during which years he was also under tremendous pressure from his then supervising professor.

This is very obvious on his BaZi chart. Whenever H7 or H8 appears on his Heavenly Stem side, he is likely to suffer the syndrome. With that, I told him not to worry too much over the next few years, but to pay attention to those years ending with 0 or 1 (e.g., 2020 and 2021). Also, during the month of H7 or H8, he may also feel some minor discomfort.

From a different perspective, his short-term adverse physical condition saved him one year of military service. This might not have been such a bad thing after all.



## Case Study 2

### The affair of Chien-Min Wang

Chien-Min Wang is famous in Taiwan for being among the first Taiwanese baseball players who made it to the US Major League. His love affair that broke out in the media in 2010 caught a lot of public attention and dented his image quite a bit. Wang's birthdate is March 31, 1980. There are a few versions of his birth time on the Internet. Based on the known events, we think the hour of E11 is the most likely birth time.

According to the press, Wang started having the affair in 2010. The affair lasted eight months. In April 2012 the affair was somehow exposed to the public. These series of events could be explained based on his BaZi chart.

Based on his BaZi chart, I believe that Wang is not someone who lacks moral values or a sense of responsibility. As a fan of his, I sincerely hope that he can soon walk away from this temporary low point in his life and return to his former glory.

## Case Study 3

### No one believed what I said

In 2010, I had an opportunity to reunite with two of my college classmates. More than twenty years after college, they were both very accomplished, with their own companies. It goes without saying that we were all excited with our reunion and had a great time together. During our casual conversation, one of the classmates mentioned that he had a problem with his kidney. Almost out of intuition I responded, “Let me guess. It was severe two years ago, but it’s fine this year.” He was very surprised, as that was indeed the case. I told him that I was studying BaZi and added, “I bet that there is Earth countering Water in your BaZi chart. If not, the dinner is on me.” His birth date and time was December 7, 1964, at the hour of E4. I quickly built his BaZi chart, which showed exactly what I expected.

The year 2009 was the year of H6-E2. The energy of Earth was heavy on both Heavenly Stem and Earthly Branch. It’s not a surprise that Earth countered Water and triggered issues with his kidney. Throughout 2010 and 2011 his kidney did not bother him. One day, in 2012, however, while I dropped by his office for our appointment, he was absent. His colleagues told me that he called in sick, as his kidney problem had reoccurred. Whenever this happened, his whole body gets swollen, and this time was no exception.