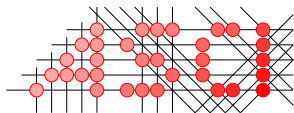


Colophon

This thesis was typeset in L^AT_EX^ε. No electrons were harmed during the production of this thesis.

The characters on the cover (Pinyin transcription “yóu rèn yǒu yú”, pronounced more or less like “yo run yo ew”) form a Chinese saying. Literally translated it means “the wiggling blade has room to spare.” This expression is used to express confidence that someone has more than ample capacities for the task at hand. It was calligraphed by the author’s mother. The proverb was derived from a parable in *The secret of caring for life*, a chapter from the Taoist text *The Inner Chapters* by the Chinese philosopher and poet Chuang Tzu (ca. 360 BC). In this parable, Chuang Tzu illustrates how our conscious self falls away when we are fully absorbed in a task. A translation of this parable is on the back cover.



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