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## Humor in the Zhuangzi: A Negotiation Strategy with Death

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### ABSTRACT

This article aims to point out the importance of humor as a strategy used by Zhuangzi to free people from fear, especially death. This is because Zhuangzi's attitude and reaction towards death is interestingly different from classic Chinese philosophers. In addition, the article also sheds light on the relationship between humor and freedom and focuses on humor as a negotiation strategy with death. Zhuangzi uses humor to liberate human beings into freedom beyond physical or psychological liberation. Zhuangzi's sense of humor liberates one's thoughts and perspectives on how to view the world as one, such as seeing death as equal to life. Everything is constantly and infinitely changing. That is how Zhuangzi describes his view of death, an important and prominent concept in the Zhuangzi.

**Keywords:** Zhuangzi, humor, death, freedom