

**Cào: An Etymology**  
By Caleb Powell

# 操

𠂔 cào: to fuck

i. 入 rù

to enter

ii. 肉 ròu

meat

iii. 𠂔 cào

入 rù on 肉 ròu

to enter meat  
to fuck

iv. 操 cào

on the left

a radical

a hand

on the right

a loan of sound

to dig or shovel

*操* cào to hold, drill, exercise, act, do, take in hand, keep, manage,  
and to fuck

𠂔 cào an old character  
rarely seen  
in a new China.

中国

**About the author:**

Caleb Powell's writing is published or forthcoming in *descant*, *Drunken Boat*, *elimae*, *Yankee Pot Roast* and others. *Yin Dao: An Etymology* first appeared in *The Pedestal Magazine*, and *Love: An Etymology* in *decomp*. He has lived and worked in South Korea, Taiwan, Guam, Thailand, The United Arab Emirates, Denmark, Brazil, and Argentina. A Canadian small press, *Good Cheer*, published his guidebook, *The World is a Class*. <http://calebpowell.wordpress.com>