

I asked AI to compare two Reiki lineage maps to better understand why they differ—where the divergence began, and why there is so much confusion today around Reiki history, levels, and lineage. My intention was simply to gain clarity, and I hope this offers insight for others as well.

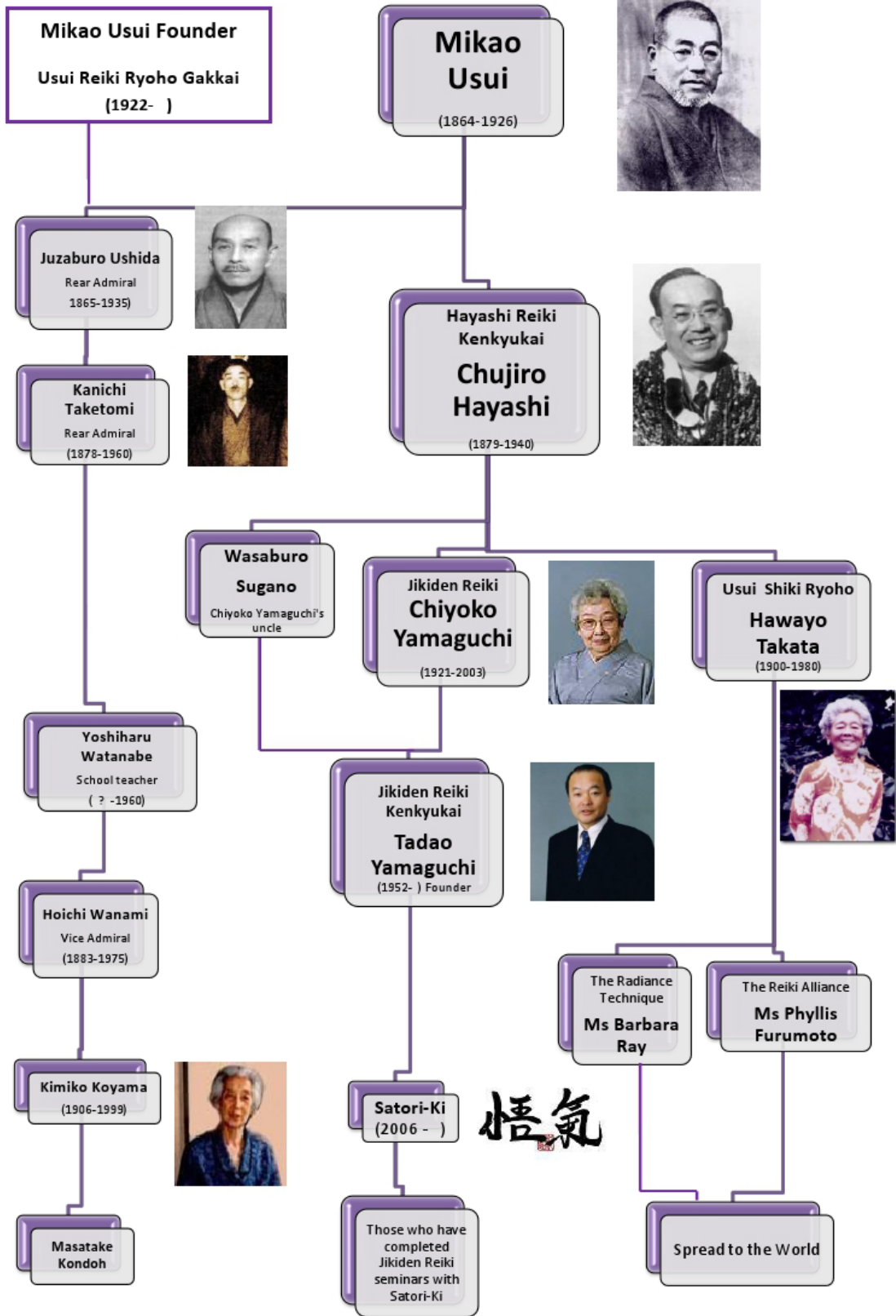
From what was observed, one chart blends multiple independent Reiki lineages into a single pathway, while the other preserves the historical structure of distinct lineages as they were originally passed from teacher to student. This appears to be one of the primary sources of confusion in modern Reiki teachings.

With that being said, I teach the original traditional Reiki as it was passed through Hawayo Takata and Phyllis Furumoto. At the same time, I fully encourage my students to follow their own path, listen to their inner guidance, and explore other Reiki Masters and teachings.

My only encouragement is to remain mindful of the history and origins of the practice, and to understand where different teachings come from.

No one Master is “better” than another, regardless of how many levels or titles are presented. Reiki is not something that becomes more powerful through status or hierarchy—the energy itself remains constant.

What deepens is the practitioner’s awareness, integrity, and embodiment of the work.

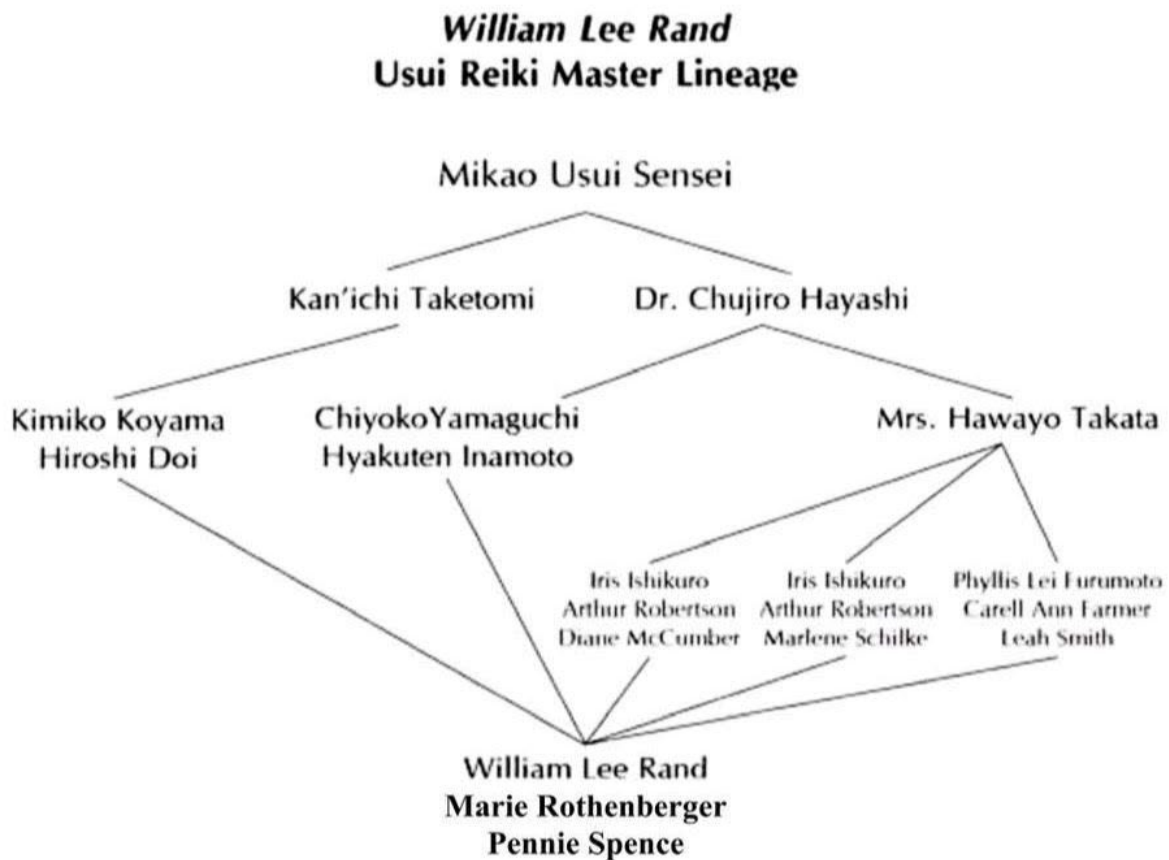


## 🌿 1. Where the line splits after Usui

Both agree on:

- Mikao Usui
- Chujiro Hayashi
- Hawayo Takata

✅ No issue there — that's solid across historical records.



## ⚠️ 2. The *biggest discrepancy* — how William Rand is connected

### ◆ First image (William Rand lineage chart):

- Shows William Lee Rand receiving lineage from **multiple branches simultaneously**
- Includes:
  - Hiroshi Doi
  - Hyakuten Inamoto
  - Takata-line teachers (like Phyllis Furumoto connections)

👉 It creates the impression that he is:  
**directly integrated into ALL these lineages**

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### ◆ Second image (traditional lineage chart):

- Keeps **lineages separate and intact**
- Shows:
  - Japanese lineage (Usui → Gakkai → Yamaguchi line, etc.)
  - Western lineage (Usui → Hayashi → Takata → Furumoto)
- Does **NOT merge them into one person at the bottom**

👉 This reflects how lineage is traditionally understood: **you belong to the line you were trained in — not all lines**

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### 🔥 3. The core issue (this is the heart of it)

The discrepancy is this:

**First image:**

👉 **Combines multiple independent Reiki lineages into one endpoint (William Rand)**

**Second image:**

👉 **Maintains distinct, parallel lineages without merging them**

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### 🌀 Why this matters

Lineage in Reiki is:

- Not symbolic
- Not energetic in a vague sense
- It's **historical transmission through direct training**

So the question becomes:

👉 *Did William Rand directly train under all those teachers shown?*

👉 Or is the chart **grouping influences and teachings together as lineage?**

That's where the tension comes from.

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#### 4. Specific structural differences

- **First image:**
    - Multiple arrows converge into William Rand
    - Blends Japanese and Western Reiki streams
    - Suggests unified lineage authority
  - **Second image:**
    - Clean branching structure
    - No convergence into a single modern teacher
    - Preserves historical separation
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#### **The clean, grounded truth**

One chart merges multiple Reiki lineages into a single figure, while the other preserves the historical structure of separate lineages. That's where the discrepancy lies.

While his teachings come from a different branch than the traditional lineage I follow, William Rand has clearly impacted many lives through his work. His passion for Reiki and commitment to teaching have helped introduce

the practice to countless individuals around the world. We don't all need to agree with how practitioners get to where they are, but we do need to respect the path and remember one golden rule. Not one Reiki Master or Practitioner is better than another or more powerful. That's ego. That's not Reiki.

Donna L Werge, Reiki Master Teacher