

The Dude And The Zen Master

Zen Masters Only Don't Know The Wisdom of the Zen Masters Writings from the Zen Masters The Zen Master's Dance Zen Master Who? Dogen, the Zen Master: A Search and a Fulfillment Opening a Mountain Zen Masters of Japan Questions to a Zen Master The Zen Teachings of Master Lin-chi Great Fool Zen Masters Dropping Ashes on the Buddha Zibo Transmission of Light Ten Gates The Zen Master Hakuin The Zen Teaching of Hui Hai on Sudden Illumination Instructions to the Cook Steven Heine Zen Master Seung Sahn Irmgard Schloegl Various Jundo Cohen James Ishmael Ford Osho Steven Heine Richard Bryan McDaniel Taisen Deshimaru Yixuan Steven Heine Sungsan Tae Sönsa Keizan Zen Master Seung Sahn Hakuin  Bernard Glassman

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extending their successful series of collections on zen buddhism heine and wright present a fifth volume on what may be the most important topic of all zen masters zen masters in china and later in korea and japan were among the cultural leaders of their times stories about their comportment and powers circulated widely throughout east asia in this volume ten leading zen scholars focus on the image of the zen master as it has been projected over the last millennium by the classic literature of this tradition

here is the inimitable zen master seung sahn up close and personal in selections from the correspondence that was one of his primary modes of teaching seung sahn received hundreds of letters per month each of which he answered personally and some of the best of which are included here his frank and funny style familiar to readers of dropping ashes on the buddha is seen here in a most intimate form the beloved zen master not only answers questions on zen teaching and practice but applies an enlightened approach to problems with work relationships suffering and the teacher student relationship

unlike most other formal religions the japanese school of zen buddhism has no canonized corpus of sacred literature which will reveal the truth to diligent readers there are however numerous collections of anecdotes and aphorisms that may serve to convey the sensibility which underscores the practice of zen drawing on these traditional sources dr irmgard schloegl of the buddhist society in london has gathered into one short volume a sampling of stories and sayings that are a valuable introduction to the study of zen if in every mind burns a flame of the buddha s enlightenment christmas humphreys writes in his foreword to the wisdom of the zen masters there is nothing to seek and nothing to acquire we are enlightened and all the words in the world will not give us what we already have the man of zen therefore is concerned with one thing only to become aware of what he already is the task of the japanese zen master has been to guide his pupils in their awakening the means used vary from severe physical discipline to the proposition of enigmatic riddles or koans but always to the same end enlightenment experiencing the great death of the worldly i

these are unique stories of timeless wisdom and understanding from the zen masters with rich and fascinating tales of swords tigers tea flowers and dogs the writings of the masters challenge every perception and seek to bring all readers closer to enlightenment throughout history some books have changed the world they have transformed the way we see ourselves and each other they have inspired debate dissent war and revolution they have enlightened outraged provoked and comforted they have enriched lives and destroyed them now penguin brings you the works of the great thinkers pioneers radicals and visionaries whose ideas shook civilization and helped make us who we are

zen master s dance makes some of zen s subtlest teaching deeply personal and freshly accessible eihei dogen the thirteenth century japanese zen master of peerless depth and subtlety heard the music of the universe that sounds as all events and places people things and spaces he experienced reality as a great dance moving through time coming to life in the thoughts and acts of all beings it is a most special dance the dance that the whole of reality is dancing with nothing left out all beings are dancing and reality is dancing as all beings in the zen master s dance jundo cohen takes us deep into the mind of master dogen and shows us how to join in the great and intimate dance of the universe through fresh translations and sparkling teaching cohen opens up for us a new way to read one of buddhism s most remarkable spiritual geniuses

surprisingly little has been written about how zen came to north america zen master who does that and much more author james ishmael ford a renowned zen master in two lineages traces the tradition s history in asia looking at some of its most important figures the buddha himself and the handful of indian chinese and japanese masters who gave the zen school its shape it also outlines the challenges that occurred as zen became integrated into western consciousness and the state of zen in north america

today the author includes profiles of modern zen teachers and institutions including d t suzuki and alan watts and such topics as the emergence of liberal buddhism and christians jews and zen this engaging accessible book is aimed at anyone interested in this tradition but who may not know how to start most importantly it clarifies a great and ancient tradition for the contemporary seeker

dogen used to say it was a great opportunity that both the people who could have distracted me who loved me and i loved them and that was the danger they died at the right time i am infinitely grateful to them just because they died at the right time without destroying me

with the growing popularity of zen buddhism in the west virtually everyone knows or thinks they know what a koan is a brief and baffling question or statement that cannot be solved by the logical mind and which after sustained concentration can lead to sudden enlightenment but the truth about koans is both simpler and more complicated than this in opening a mountain steven heine shows that koans and the questions we associate with them such as what is the sound of one hand clapping are embedded in larger narratives and belong to an ancient buddhist tradition of encounter dialogues these dialogues feature dramatic and often inscrutable contests between masters and disciples or between masters and an array of natural and supernatural forces rogue priests wild foxes hermits wizards shapeshifters magical animals and dangerous women to establish a new monastery to open a mountain the zen master had to tame these wild forces in regions most remote from civilization in these extraordinary encounters fingers and arms are cut off pitchers are kicked over masters appear in and interpret each other's dreams and seemingly absurd statements are shown to reveal the deepest insights heine restores these koans to their original traditions allowing readers to see both the complex elements of chinese culture and religion that they reflect and the role they played in zen's transformation of local superstitions into its own teachings offering a fresh approach to one of the most crucial elements of zen buddhism opening a mountain is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the full story behind koans and the mysterious worlds they come from

zen masters of japan is the second book in a series that traces zen's profoundly historic journey as it spread eastward from china and japan toward the united states following zen masters of china this book concentrates on zen's significant passage through japan more specifically it describes the lineage of the great teachers the zen monk pioneers who set out to enlighten an island ready for an inner transformation based on compassionate awareness while the existing buddhist establishment in japan met early zen pioneers like dogen and eisai with fervent resistance zen buddhism ultimately persevered and continued to become further transformed in its passage through japan the japanese culture and japanese buddhism practices further deepened and strengthened

zen training by combining it with a variety of esoteric contemplative arts the arts of poetry the tea ceremony calligraphy and archery zen masters of japan chronicles this journey with each zen master profiled the book shows how the new practices soon gained popularity among all walks of life from the lowly peasant offering a hope of reincarnation and a better life to the samurai warrior due to its casual approach to death to the ruling classes challenging the intelligentsia because of its scholarly roots a collection of zen stories meditation and their wisdom zen masters of japan also explores the elusive state of no mind achieved in japan that is so fundamental to zen practices today

true religion the great japanese teacher taisen deshimaru wrote is not esoteric or mystical it is not an exercise in well being or gymnastics true religion is the highest way the absolute way zazen here deshimaru the author of true zen offers practical suggestions for developing unitary mind body consciousness through the principles of zazen translated literally as seated meditation advice is given on posture breathing and concentration and concepts such as karma and satori are clearly explained

an important classic of zen literature written by one of the great zen masters of ancient china the book compiled by lin chi s disciples describes the life and teaching of this eminent zen master and includes a number of his sermons noted for their brisk and colorful language s

taigu ryokan 1759 1831 remains one of the most popular figures in japanese buddhist history despite his religious and artistic sophistication ryokan referred to himself as great fool and refused to place himself within the cultural elite of his age in contrast to the typical zen master of his time who presided over a large monastery trained students and produced recondite religious treatises ryokan followed a life of mendicancy in the countryside instead of delivering sermons he expressed himself through kanshi poems composed in classical chinese and waka and could typically be found playing with the village children in the course of his daily rounds of begging great fool is the first study in a western language to offer a comprehensive picture of the legendary poet monk and his oeuvre it includes not only an extensive collection of the master s kanshi topically arranged to facilitate an appreciation of ryokan s colorful world but selections of his waka essays and letters the volume also presents for the first time in english the ryokan zenji kiwa curious accounts of the zen master ryokan a firsthand source composed by a former student less than sixteen years after ryokan s death although it lacks chronological order the curious account is invaluable for showing how ryokan was understood and remembered by his contemporaries it consists of colorful anecdotes and episodes sketches from ryokan s everyday life to further assist the reader three introductory essays approach ryokan from the diverse perspectives of his personal history and literary work

extending their successful series of collections on zen buddhism heine and wright present a fifth volume on what may be the most important topic of all zen masters following two volumes on zen literature zen classics and the zen canon and two volumes on zen practice the koan and zen ritual they now propose a volume on the most significant product of the zen tradition the zen masters who have made this kind of buddhism the most renowned in the world by emphasizing the role of eminent spiritual leaders and their function in establishing centers forging lineages and creating literature and art zen masters in china and later in korea and japan were among the cultural leaders of their times stories about their comportment and powers circulated widely throughout east asia in this volume ten leading zen scholars focus on the image of the zen master as it has been projected over the last millennium by the classic literature of this tradition each chapter looks at a single prominent master authors assess the master s personality and charisma his reported behavior and comportment his relationships with teachers rivals and disciplines lines of transmission primary teachings the practices he emphasized sayings and catch phrases associated with him his historical and social context representations and icons and enduring influences

somebody comes into the zen center with a lighted cigarette walks up to the buddha statue blows smoke in its face and drops ashes on its lap you are standing there what can you do this is a problem that zen master seung sahn is fond of posing to his american students who attend his zen centers dropping ashes on the buddha is a delightful irreverent and often hilariously funny living record of the dialogue between korean zen master seung sahn and his american students consisting of dialogues stories formal zen interviews dharma speeches and letters using the zen master s actual words in spontaneous living interaction with his students this book is a fresh presentation of the zen teaching method of instant dialogue between master and student which through the use of astonishment and paradox leads to an understanding of ultimate reality

zibo the last of the great chinese zen masters played a leading role in the 16th century revival of buddhism in china a famous teacher with wide contacts in high society and among the common people zibo taught zen by personal example showing in his own life the single minded determination and pure intent characteristic of the champions of zen in a final uncompromising gesture he gave his life in a protest against the policies of the tyrannical imperial authorities this is zen teaching from an authentic source a classic zen teacher who embodied the truth of the buddhist teaching the language is plain and direct the message challenging and profound the lessons left to us by zibo are indeed jewels from the treasury of light

a translation of the classic denkoroku by one of the premier translators of buddhist and taoist texts illustrates how to arrive at the epiphanic zen awakening known as satori the essential initiatory experience of zen satori is believed to open up the direct

perception of things as they are even if you sit until your seat breaks through even if you persevere mindless of fatigue even if you are a person of lofty deeds and pure behavior if you haven't reached this realm of satori you still can't get out of the prison of the world deliberately cultivated and employed to awaken the dormant potency of the mind satori is said to be accessible to all people transcending time history culture race gender and personality attributed to the thirteenth century zen master keizan 1268 1325 transmission of light along with the blue cliff record and the gateless barrier is one of three essential koan texts used by zen students techniques for reaching the enlightening experience of satori are revealed through fifty three short tales about the awakenings of successive generations of masters beginning with the twelfth century zen master ejo dharma heir to dogen the translator's introduction establishes the context for transmission of light within the zen canon and elucidates central themes of the work including the essential idea that genuine satori is not the end of zen it is more properly the true beginning

zen is famous for koans called kong ans in korean and in this book those bizarre and seemingly unanswerable questions zen masters pose to their students to check their realization such as what is the sound of one hand clapping fear of koans keeps some people from ever giving zen practice a try but here through the experience of seeing a modern zen master work with his students you can see what koan training is really like it's a skillful lively practice for attaining wisdom this book presents the system of ten koans that zen master seung sahn came to call the ten gates these koans represent the basic types one will encounter in any course of study each of the ten gates or koans is illuminated by actual interchanges between zen master seung sahn and his students that show what the practice is all about it is above all a process of coming to trust one's own wisdom and of manifesting that wisdom in every koan like situation life presents us with for more information on the author zen master seung sahn visit his website at kwanumzen.com

an introduction to the teachings of hakuin and the study of rinzai zen

instructions to the cook is a distillation of zen wisdom that can be used equally well as a manual on business or spiritual practice cooking or life the hardcover edition was featured in every major buddhist magazine be nourished and inspired magnificent work jon kabat zinn

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