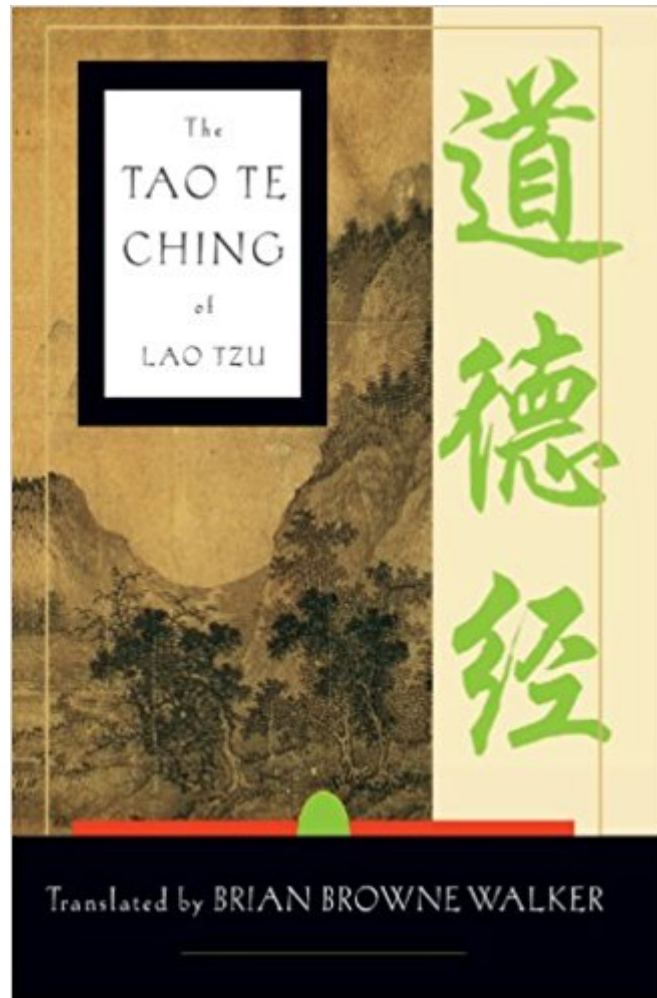




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The Tao Te Ching Of Lao Tzu



Synopsis

The Tao te Ching of Lao Tzu is one of the most widely read and deeply cherished books in the world, a work many consider the wisest book ever written. In his introduction, translator Brian Browne Walker says, "It is less a book than a living, breathing angel." In his new translation, Walker stays close to the direct literal accuracy of the Chinese characters while producing a modern, exceptionally clear version that has the ring and voice of Lao Tzu, a man who may or may not have been a single individual. "I have come to think of Lao Tzu less as a man who once lived," Walker writes, "and more as a song that plays, eternal and abiding."

Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Griffin; Reprint edition (November 15, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312147449

ISBN-13: 978-0312147440

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.3 x 0.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 83 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #316,367 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Divination > I Ching](#) #70 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Eastern Religions & Sacred Texts > Tao Te Ching](#) #172 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Eastern Religions & Sacred Texts > Taoism](#)

Customer Reviews

Brian Browne Walker has been a student of Chinese and Taoist philosophy for many years now. He has translated the Hua Hu Ching and the I Ching and has written The Crazy Dog Guide to Lifetime Happiness and The Crazy Dog Guide to Happier Work. He lives with his daughter in Boulder, Colorado.

Great translation! Loved the read through. I end up giving this away almost as fast as I can read it. Seriously, great book and great philosophy.

My friends and I chose this book title for our most recent book to discuss. I downloaded the Kindle version of the text and found this book much more enjoyable translation. This translation is more like

poetry with subtle spirituality. We all have different translations of the book and share all of them at our meetings. It's totally worth reading this book. The "chapters" are short and it's a book that I intend to keep near by and return to again for inspiration. If someone wants to "study" Tao Te Ching, I suggest you get a more academic version to study AND this version to thoroughly enjoy. Much good wisdom.

Of the approximately one-dozen translations of the Tao Te Ching that I have read, this is my least favorite. The translation sometimes strays into surprisingly shallow waters. Mr Walker, in an apparent attempt to "modernize" the Tao Te Ching, has simply diluted its strength. Mr. Walker's pronoun usage further weakens the timelessness of this classic text. The Tao Te Ching, in its original, uses gender neutral language. The best translations retain this neutrality. Mr. Walker, unfortunately, uses gender specific pronouns -- sometimes masculine and sometime feminine. This "modernization" distracts from the power and universality of the Tao Te Ching's ideas. The book is very handsome, though. If you're looking for a modern yet more faithful and powerful translation -- one with depth and bite -- I recommend two: one by Ellen Chen, and one by Derek Lin. Both are excellent, and both include excellent commentary, too.

Walker has done a very good job of translating this work of Taoist spirituality. I also recommend Jonathan Star's version, which has a word for word translation section, allowing the reader to see how close to the original any translation is. By study of that section of Star's book, I found that Walker's translation does very well as conveying the intention of the original. Stephen Mitchell's version, in comparison, strays further from the original text.

A wonderfully sensitive translation of this ancient work by Brian Browne Walker. I have given this many times to friends who are ready for this very valuable key to self understanding. I've read my own so many times that I'm surprised how well this attractive little paper back has held up given its nearly twenty years in my life. I've read other translations and this one trumps them all.

Lao Tzu's teachings are incredibly simple yet effective and a belief and behaviour system that can and will change your life. This is for everyone who is lost or broken or just feeling like they are missing something. The world needs to know this.

I love the Tao, and have used the Stephen Mitchell translation for years. I have the Brian Browne

Walker translations of the I Ching and the Hua Hu Ching, so I already knew I would not be disappointed--and I'm not. It is similar to Mitchell's translation, with a slightly different spin in some cases. Since I practically have Mitchell's translation memorized, it is fun to have a new translation which is simple and understandable.

Brain Walker is an excellent author.

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