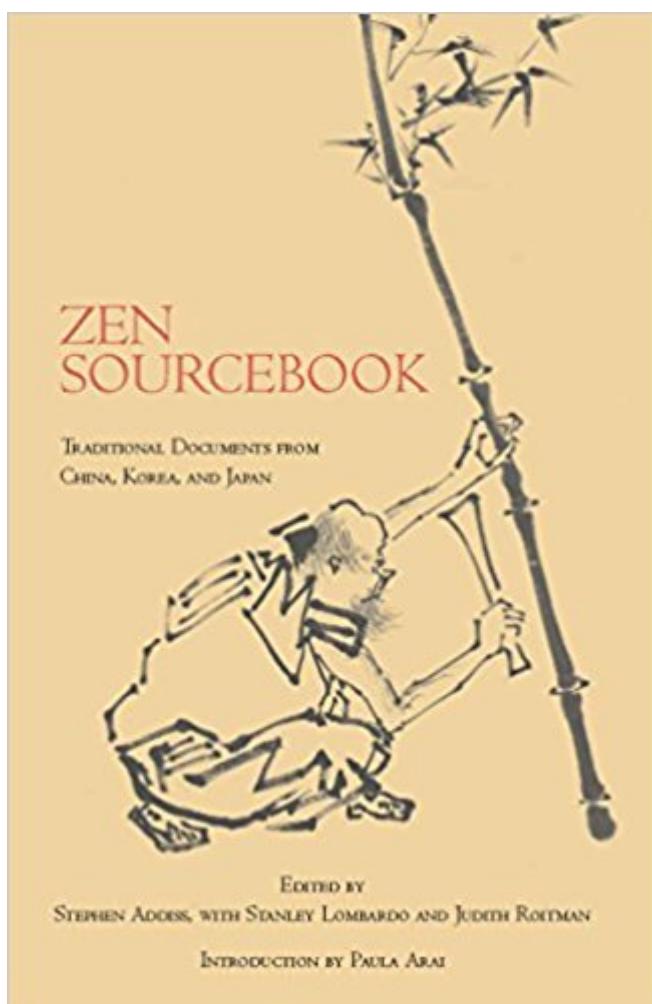


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Zen Sourcebook: Traditional Documents From China, Korea, And Japan



Synopsis

"Featuring a carefully selected collection of source documents, this tome includes traditional teaching tools from the Zen Buddhist traditions of China (Ch'an), Korea (Son), and Japan (Zen), including texts created by women. The selections provide both a good feel for the varieties of Zen and an experience of its common core. . . . The texts are experiential teachings and include storytelling, poetry, autobiographies, catechisms, calligraphy, paintings, and koans (paradoxical meditation questions that are intended to help aspirants transcend logical, linguistic limitations). Contextual commentary prefaces each text. Wade-Giles transliteration is used, although Pinyin, Korean, Japanese, and Sanskrit terms are linked in appendixes. An insightful introduction by Arai contributes a religious studies perspective. The bibliography references full translations of the selections. A thought-provoking discussion about the problems of translation is included. . . . Summing Up: Highly recommended. All levels." --Choice

Book Information

Paperback: 312 pages

Publisher: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. (February 15, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0872209091

ISBN-13: 978-0872209091

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #169,448 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 in Books > History > World > Religious > Buddhism #80 in Books > History > Asia > Korea #164 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Eastern > Buddhism > Zen > Philosophy

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"[T]he Zen Sourcebook [is] an excellent cross-section of some of the most important texts in Chinese, Korean, and Japanese Zen. The translations [are] well chosen from among the best available. . . . This is an excellent sourcebook for both beginners and serious practitioners." â "John Daido Loori, Abbot, Zen Mountain Monastery" This is an excellent book . . . to be commended for its wide coverage; the Korean material is especially hard to find. . . . The short introductions to the selections are lucid, informative and focused, providing a good framework through which to understand the readings. Anyone who wants to work directly with translations of the primary texts,

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Stephen Addiss is Tucker-Boatwright Professor in the Humanities and Professor of Art History, University of Richmond. Stanley Lombardo is Professor of Classics, University of Kansas. Judith Roitman is Professor of Mathematics, University of Kansas. Paula Arai is Associate Professor of Religion, Louisiana State University.

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Great book for a dedicated introduction to Zen and the origins of Chan throughout Buddhist history. I consider this an introduction to the most important texts of Zen, with translations of primary documents that are otherwise difficult to get ahold of. An excellent tool for those just beginning their study of Zen.

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