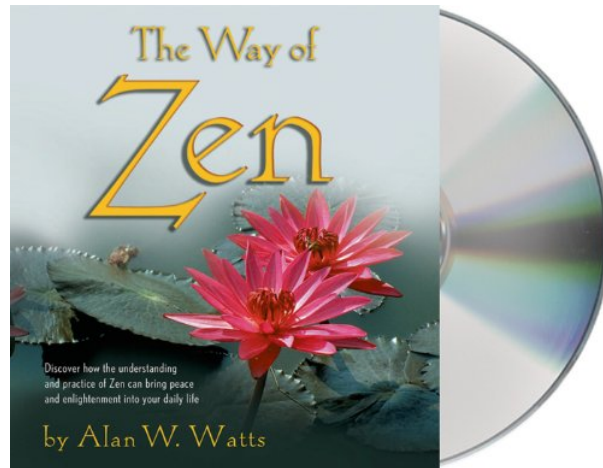
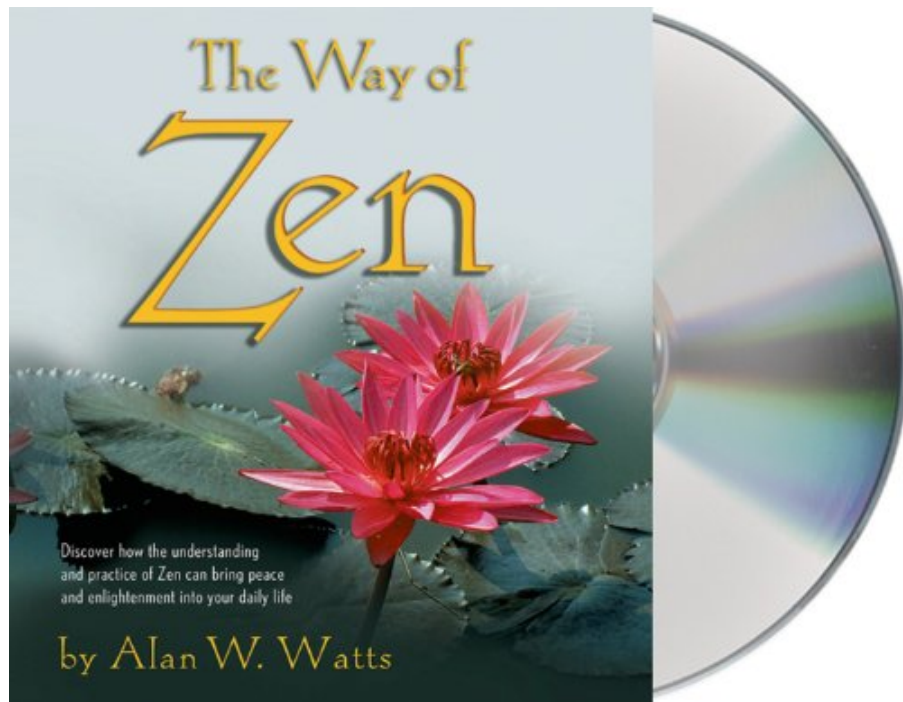


THE WAY OF ZEN BY ALAN W. WATTS



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From the Inside Flap

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It is wonderfully readable without ever glossing over the complexity and profundity ...

By crichton

Of those available in English, this is still the outstanding combination of introduction, history and guide to Buddhism. What makes it so memorable - and yes, inspiring - are the elegance and clarity of the writing, the depth of scholarship and breadth of coverage. It is wonderfully readable without ever glossing over the complexity and profundity of the ideas presented or the historical, cultural and linguistic challenges of interpretation and translation. This is a remarkable achievement. One gets the feeling that Alan Watts understood his readership as well as he understood what he was writing about. He was in effect writing for and about both. Highly recommended

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

The author has a great depth of research

By Discipulus Scipionis

Pros: The author has a great depth of research. Reading this book I learned so much I didn't know before about Buddhism in general and Zen Buddhism in particular.

Cons: Most of the book concerns the duality of the illusory world (which comes to us through our bodily senses and mind) and the Oneness of awakening or satori (the indescribable realization that reality is a veneer, that all things are the Buddha and the Buddha is all things). This is admittedly a very difficult concept to fully grasp, even at an artificial level (since by definition one cannot "grasp" satori). However, once I grew comfortable with the idea, I found the book to be rather repetitive. Besides some interesting digressions on zazen and sumi artwork, the rest of the book seemed unnecessary, as all things tied in to the central idea. But perhaps this was Watts' point. Once my Unborn mind no longer spontaneously compelled me to read onward, I should have simply put down his book and picked up any other which struck my fancy.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

I ate every word!

By raistlin smits

Such an insightful piece of literature! This is the first book that I've found that explains Zen and Buddhism in a such an easy to understand way. This is an absolute must buy for any fan of Alan Watts, or those looking

for a good jumping off point for the study of Zen.

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