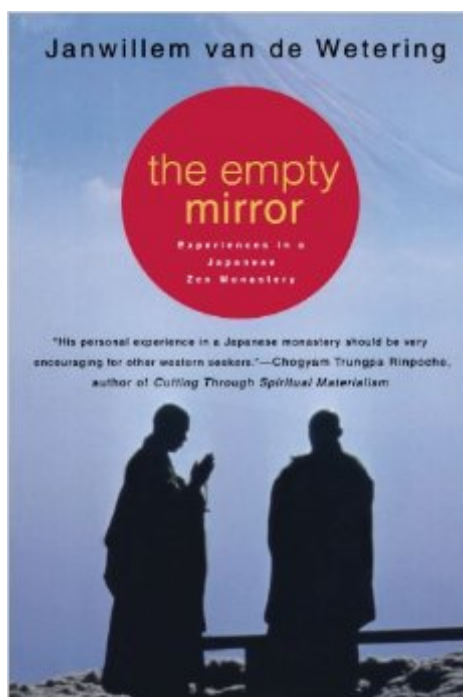


The book was found

The Empty Mirror: Experiences In A Japanese Zen Monastery



Synopsis

Seen by many as a contemporary classic, Janwillem van de Wetering's small and admirable memoir records the experiences of a young Dutch student •later a widely celebrated mystery writer• who spent a year and a half as a novice monk in a Japanese Zen Buddhist monastery. As Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche, author of Cutting Through Spiritual Materialism, has written, The Empty Mirror "should be very encouraging for other Western seekers." It is the first book in a trilogy that continues with A Glimpse of Nothingness and Afterzen.

Book Information

Paperback: 146 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Griffin; Reprint edition (April 14, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312207743

ISBN-13: 978-0312207748

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars • See all reviews • (43 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #468,548 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #132 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Japanese #533 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Eastern > Buddhism > Zen > Spirituality #3018 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Religious

Customer Reviews

In the summer of 1958 Janwillem van de Wetering showed up at the door of a Zen monastery in Kyoto Japan, knowing pretty much no one, not speaking the language, and without a really good idea what he was doing there. This book describes, with a certain amount of humor and what seems to be quite a bit of honesty, the months that followed (interlaced with Zen stories that he heard during those months, including some that I hadn't heard anywhere else before; I like Zen stories). There aren't many dates in the book (or I wasn't paying enough of that kind of attention to notice them), but I think he stayed at the monastery for more than six months and less than two years. His descriptions of the time are interesting, funny, warm, vivid, and all sorts of good words like that (and also rather dark, mordant and/or grouchy in tone, often frustrated, impatient, dissatisfied). He did not find the answers to life's problems, his knees hurt a lot, he misunderstood the head monk and Zen master frequently, and he (like the other residents of the monastery)

cheated and broke the rules with impressive frequency. The writing is spare and specific; this is the story of what one particular set of months in one particular monastery were like. Any broad conclusions about The Meaning Of Zen Training or anything else are left pretty much entirely to the reader. The author left feeling that the whole thing had perhaps been a failure; but the master said "now you are a little awake; so awake that you will never fall asleep again". Which altogether is more satisfying, I think, than perky converts describing how happy and fulfilled their new meme complex has made them.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Empty Mirror: Experiences in a Japanese Zen Monastery Zen Doodle Drawing BOX SET
5-in-1: Zen Cats, Zen Dogs, Zen Horses, Zen Underwater Life,Zen Girls I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables (English Japanese bilingual, Japanese baby books): japanese children books, japanese kids books,japanese bilingual ... Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Mom (japanese kids books, japanese children stories, bilingual japanese books): japanese for kids (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Dad (English Japanese bilingual books, japanese children books): japanese kids books,japanese children stories (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) Zen Flesh Zen Bones: A Collection of Zen and Pre-Zen Writings Tarot Osho Zen/ Osho Zen Tarot: El juego trascendental del Zen/ The Transcendental Game of Zen (Spanish Edition) Zen Flesh, Zen Bones: A Collection of Zen and Pre-Zen Writings (Unabridged Selections) Childrens Japanese book: Lisa can Read.ã ã•ã •ã^ã•¶ã “ã§ã ~ã •ã <ã ~: Children’s English-Japanese Picture book (Bilingual Edition) (Japanese Edition),Japanese children books,Japanese ... English picture books for children 9) I Love My Dad ã• ã•ã•†ã•ã “ã• ã•,ã•™ã• (Japanese Kids books, English Japanese bilingual, japanese children books bilingual,ã...•ç«¥æ»„, japanese children stories) (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables(English Japanese bilingual, Japanese children books, Japanese kids books,japanese kids language,ã...•ç«¥æ»„)ã•ã• ã ã•®ã•”ã „ã•ã•,ã•œã• ã•,ã•™ã• (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) Empty Nester Homes: 206 Exciting Plans for Empty Nesters, Retirees and Couples Without Children ZEN DOODLE: The Art of Zen Doodle. Drawing Guide with Step by Step Instructions. Book one. (Zen Doodle Art 1) Peekaboo baby. Japanese Baby Book: Children’s Picture Book English-Japanese (Bilingual Edition) Bilingual Picture book in English and Japanese ... for children) (Volume 1) (Japanese Edition) My Daddy is the best!: (Bilingual Edition) English Japanese Children’s Picture Book Bilingual Picture book in English and Japanese,Japanese kids book ... for children) (Volume 7) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Mom (Japanese Kids books, bilingual

japanese books, japanese children books bilingual, あ... (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) Living Language Japanese Complete Course, Revised & Updated (40 Lessons on 3 Compact Discs * Coursebook * Japanese-English/English-Japanese Dictionary) (English and Japanese Edition) Cultivating the Empty Field: The Silent Illumination of Zen Master Hongzhi I Love My Mom: English Japanese Bilingual Edition (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) GENKI I: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese [With CDROM] (Japanese Edition) (English and Japanese Edition)

[Dmca](#)