



Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus

By Georg Feuerstein

Download now

Read Online →

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein

“A fascinating look at spiritual leaders, both past and present.”—*Booklist*

Crazy-wise adepts, cult leaders, and gurus challenge our common sense views of reality and norms of conduct. In their attempts to teach spiritual truths, they shock cognitive boundaries and jolt moral sensibilities with radical eccentricity, trickery, and excess.

Now for the first time, *Holy Madness* explores this universal dimension of spirituality in a readable and brilliant blend of history, philosophy, theology, and first-person accounts. Here are Fools for Christ, sitting naked on garbage heaps; eccentric Zen masters baffling their students with beatings and belly laughs; and enigmatic rascal gurus and spiritual clowns like Da-Ananda, Chögyam Trungpa, G. I. Gurdjieff, and Aleister Crowley.

How can you tell if the antics of a Holy Fool are legitimate teaching tools or simply the acts of a self-indulgent lunatic? This fascinating study tackles this question and many others, providing an unbiased exploration of the mechanics of spiritual life.

“It makes good, stiff reading for folks who hanker for travel of the mind and heart.”—*Boston Globe*

“A totally absorbing and fascinating piece of work by an author of considerable intellectual caliber . . . a superb study in the further reaches of human nature.”—Colin Wilson, author of *The Outsider*

↓ [Download Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachi ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teac ...pdf](#)

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus

By Georg Feuerstein

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein

“A fascinating look at spiritual leaders, both past and present.”—*Booklist*

Crazy-wise adepts, cult leaders, and gurus challenge our common sense views of reality and norms of conduct. In their attempts to teach spiritual truths, they shock cognitive boundaries and jolt moral sensibilities with radical eccentricity, trickery, and excess.

Now for the first time, *Holy Madness* explores this universal dimension of spirituality in a readable and brilliant blend of history, philosophy, theology, and first-person accounts. Here are Fools for Christ, sitting naked on garbage heaps; eccentric Zen masters baffling their students with beatings and belly laughs; and enigmatic rascal gurus and spiritual clowns like Da-Ananda, Chögyam Trungpa, G. I. Gurdjieff, and Aleister Crowley.

How can you tell if the antics of a Holy Fool are legitimate teaching tools or simply the acts of a self-indulgent lunatic? This fascinating study tackles this question and many others, providing an unbiased exploration of the mechanics of spiritual life.

“It makes good, stiff reading for folks who hanker for travel of the mind and heart.”—*Boston Globe*

“A totally absorbing and fascinating piece of work by an author of considerable intellectual caliber . . . a superb study in the further reaches of human nature.”—Colin Wilson, author of *The Outsider*

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1602722 in Books
- Published on: 1992-10-01
- Released on: 1992-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.68" h x .71" w x 5.03" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages

 [Download Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teac ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Russian spiritual teacher Georgei Gurdjieff force-fed vegetarians hefty meat dishes. Japanese Zen master Lin-chi thrashed his pupils. Indian guru Meher Baba remained silent for 43 years. All employed what Feuerstein, author of books on yoga and religion, calls "holy madness" or "crazy wisdom," using eccentric behavior or shock tactics to communicate an alternative vision. A former devotee of Da Free John (aka Da Love-Ananda, ne Franklin Jones), Feuerstein presents critical cameos of holy fools (Aleister Crowley, BhagwanRajneesh, etc.) as well as guidelines for choosing a wise, enlightened guru and avoiding the exploitative. Yet his gallery of spiritual eccentrics is so diverse--ranging from Christian mystics to Hindu holy men who live on garbage heaps--that it's hard to credit the author's generalizations about the value of holy folly as an authentic path to transcendence.

Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Music mogul Lissauer has compiled an alphabetical list of over 19,000 songs, covering standards and hits that include minstrel tunes, war songs, operetta pieces, jazz, instrumentals, blues, pop, rock, rhythm and blues, and country and western. Each entry includes writer and lyricist, date of popularity, and usually a sentence or two describing its context and the performer(s) who popularized it. A year-by-year listing follows, and the volume closes with an index of the writers (but not performers). This is a good tool for basic information, but those libraries already owning the 13-volume series *Popular Music*, edited by Bruce Pollock and Nat Shapiro (Gale, 1975-88), and not concerned with the gay Nineties will find Lissauer unnecessary.

- *Robert Aken, Univ. of Kentucky Libs., Lexington*

Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Kirkus Reviews

Here, Feuerstein (*The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Yoga*, 1990- -not reviewed) explores the arcane and dramatic world of "crazy wisdom"--the purposefully outrageous, convention-destroying behavior of spiritual adepts in every great tradition--peppering his fascinating historical survey of gurus and tricksters with insights from modern psychology and his own experience in an unnamed contemporary cult. "In their realization or experience, adepts may be above good and evil," Feuerstein writes. "In their actions, however, they are not." Tracing the shadowy tradition of crazy wisdom from the self-abnegating "Holy Fools" of early Christianity and Sufism (the "Way of Blame") to the greatly accomplished teaching adepts of India and Tibet (including the legendary Milarepa), Feuerstein paints a richly suggestive picture of "crazy wise" spiritual experience--as solitary and superb as a saint pretending to be mad. His portraits of modern adepts, however, reveal how difficult it is to balance mysticism with common morality. G.I. Gurdjieff, Chogyam Trungpa, Bhagwan Rajneesh, Da Love Ananda (a.k.a. Da Free John): Feuerstein alleges that each (to greater or lesser degree) indulged in outrageous behavior to flex his spiritual muscle in the face of dourly submissive disciples. Particularly surprising are accounts of the alcohol-drenched debauches of Trungpa and Da Love Ananda (Rajneesh's weaknesses are too well known to surprise). Feuerstein speculates that neurosis survives enlightenment, and he labels these singular men "relics from an archaic spirituality"--yet he apparently longs to infuse the personal-growth field with their wisdom. A provocative and personally charged attempt to reconcile an ancient spiritual form to the modern age. -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Juan Palmer:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Yes, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open or even read a book called Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have additional opinion?

Anthony Robin:

Often the book Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading the book. The author style to describe the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to see, this book very appropriate to you. The book Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

Tony You:

The particular book Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was written by the very famous author. The writer makes some research before write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after reading this book.

Cherly Plaster:

Guide is one of source of understanding. We can add our information from it. Not only for students but in addition native or citizen will need book to know the update information of year to help year. As we know those books have many advantages. Beside many of us add our knowledge, may also bring us to around the world. From the book Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus we can consider more advantage. Don't someone to be creative people? For being creative person must like to read a book. Simply choose the best book that suited with your aim. Don't end up being doubt to change your life at this book Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus. You can more attractive than now.

Download and Read Online Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein #P0MW8U9HKJL

Read Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein for online ebook

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein books to read online.

Online Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein ebook PDF download

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein Doc

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein Mobipocket

Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein EPub

P0MW8U9HKJL: Holy Madness: The Shock Tactics and Radical Teachings of Crazy-Wise Adepts, Holy Fools and Rascal Gurus By Georg Feuerstein