



Book of Serenity: One Hundred Zen Dialogues

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Book of Serenity is a translation of *Shoyo Roku*, a collection of one hundred Zen koans with commentaries that stands as a companion to the other great Chinese koan collection, the *Blue Cliff Record (Pi Yen Lu)*. A classic of Chan (Chinese Zen) Buddhism, *Book of Serenity* has been skillfully rendered into English by the renowned translator Thomas Cleary.

Compiled in China in the twelfth century, the *Book of Serenity* is, in the words of Zen teacher Tenshin Reb Anderson, "an auspicious peak in the mountain range of Zen literature, a subtle flowing stream in the deep valleys of our teaching, a treasure house of inspiration and guidance in studying the ocean of Buddhist teachings." Each one of its one hundred chapters begins with an introduction, along with a main case, or koan, taken from Zen lore or Buddhist scripture. This is followed by commentary on the main case, verses inspired by it, and, finally, further commentary on all of these. The book contains a glossary of Zen/Chan terms and metaphors.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Thomas Cleary has translated a medium-sized library of classic texts of Buddhism, Taoism, and *I Ching* studies, and the *Book of Serenity* is a major contribution to his already staggering body of work."—Sam Hamill, *Tricycle*

Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: Chinese

About the Author

Thomas Cleary holds a PhD in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University and a JD from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law. He is the translator of over fifty volumes of Buddhist, Taoist, Confucian, and Islamic texts from Sanskrit, Chinese, Japanese, Pali, and Arabic.

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