Strong Case for a Strange Merger


Reviewed by Curt Gentry

"ANY psychologist, even twenty years ago, would have been greatly surprised—or shocked—to find his colleagues interested in a 'mystical' religious system such as Zen Buddhism. He would have been even more surprised to find that most of them were not just 'interested' but deeply concerned."

Thus Erich Fromm introduces the fascinating, and in many ways ironic, meeting of psychoanalysis and Zen, which its authors, save for a few reservations, believe to be a highly fruitful meeting.

"Zen Buddhism and Psychoanalysis" is composed of a series of talks given at a psychoanalytic workshop in Mexico in 1957. Dr. Suzuki presents a strong case for consideration of Zen as a "modern" mode of enlightenment; Dr. Fromm considers what Zen can mean to psychoanalysis; and Richard De Martino, with experience in both fields, discusses the benefits and problems, both theoretical and operational, of this merger.

Though "perhaps" is the most common word in this book, the joint findings indicate an auspicious beginning. Zen and Psychoanalysis have common goals, the authors find; their points of agreement are stronger than those of difference; and, in the words of Dr. Fromm, it seems possible that "Zen thought will deepen and widen the horizon of the psychoanalyst and help arrive at a radical concept of the grasp of reality which is the ultimate aim of full, conscious awareness."

THE METHOD OF ZEN. By Eugen Herrigel. Pantheon; 125 pp.; $2.75.

WHEN Eugen Herrigel died in 1955 he had published only one book, but it was a classic-of-its-kind, "Zen in the Art of Archery." He also left voluminous notes describing his six years of training under a Japanese Zen Master. These, edited and revised by Alan Watts and others, form "The Method of Zen." The result is one of the finest and most beautiful books on Zen in English to date, even surpassing Herrigel's earlier work.

The Zen experience cannot be described in words, we are often told. But Professor Herrigel, speaking from the great knowing born out of this experience, comes closer to it than most concerning something of this mystery in words. The beginner in Zen might well read this as a hint to what lies ahead if he uses his will and persists. The man who has caught even the slightest glimpse of the wholeness of Zen will find in this book the rare encouraging understanding of a close friend.

Bay Area Best Seller

FICTION

(1) Hawaii. By James Michener
(2) Advise and Consent. By Allen Drury
(3) Two Weeks in Another Town. By Robert Ruark
(4) Poor No More. By Robert Ruark

NONFICTION

(1) Act One. By Moss Hart
(2) My Wicked, Wicked Ways. By Elev
(3) Folk Medicine. By Dr. D. C. Jarvis
(4) The Earth Shook. The Sky Burned. Bronson
(5) May This House Be Safe From Tyrant King
Psychoanalysis and Zen Buddhism

Erich Fromm (Author), Claire Slemmer (Narrator), Audible Studios (Publisher) & 0 more. 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 rating. See all 4 formats and editions Hide other formats and editions. Amazon Price. New from.

Psychoanalysis and Zen Buddhism. Erich Fromm (Author), Claire Slemmer (Narrator), Audible Studios (Publisher). Try Audible Free. Audible is $16.45/mo after 30-days. There was a problem filtering reviews right now. Please try again later. Amazon Customer. Zen Buddhism and Psychoanalysis, Erich Fromm, D. T. Suzuki, and De Martino. Approximately one third of this book is a long discussion by Suzuki that gives a Buddhist analysis of the mind, its levels, and the methodology of extending awareness beyond the merely discursive level of thought. In producing this analysis, Suzuki gives a theoretical explanation for many of the sw Zen Buddhism and Psychoanalysis, Erich Fromm, D. T. Suzuki, and De Martino. Erich Fromm. I was expecting a kind of dialogue with bridges being made between the two extremes: Psychoanalysis and Buddhism. Yet, by the end of the book, it was very clear in my mind: Suiski almost ruled out any bridges; not quite the same with Erich Fromm. Discover Psychoanalysis and Zen Buddhism as it's meant to be heard, narrated by Claire Slemmer. Free trial available! A master of psychoanalysis and social philosophy explores Zen Buddhism. In 1957, social philosopher and psychoanalyst Erich Fromm invited Daisetz T. Suzuki, the most famous Zen Buddhist master in the Western world, to a seminar at his new home in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Their discussion was one of the highlights of Fromm’s life, and the paper Fromm presented (and later expanded into a book) was a watershed work. Reviews - Please select the tabs below to change the source of reviews. Audible.com Reviews. Audible.co.uk reviews. Amazon Reviews. Sort by