

Tao Te Ching

an annotated bibliography, Ouwehand

TEXT**Addiss, Stephen, and Stanley Lombardo. Trans. *Tao Te Ching, Lao Tzu.***Introduction by **Burton Watson. Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Co., 1993.**

-- preface looks insightfully at translating Chinese characters; inclusion of one line of each poem in Chinese plus same line in Chinese ideograms; ink paintings throughout; glossary of Chinese characters

Ames, Roger T. and David L.Hall. Trans. *Dao De Jing, A Philosophical Translation.* New York: Ballantine Books, 2003.

-- tries to get at Lao Tzu's original philosophical concepts; page-length commentaries on each chapter, plus notes regarding Mawangdui and Guodian mss. comparisons; very good intro. featuring a solid discussion of "correlative cosmology" and some historical background

Blakney, R.B. Trans. *The Way of Life: A New Translation of the Tao Te Ching.* New York: Penguin, 1983. SBCC, 299.514 L298W 1983

-- very informative introduction illumines the relationship betw. writings of Lao Tzu & those of Confucius, their influence on subsequent Chinese philosophies, & gives historical background to these writers' times; helpful paraphrases & footnotes

Brookes, Robert. Trans. *Tao Te Ching.* [self-published; available only on Amazon] 2010.

-- author has much background in Asian philosophy

Carus, Paul. Trans. *The Tao Te Ching.* New York: St. Martin's Press, 2000 (1913).Chan, Wing-tsit. Trans. *The Way of Lao Tzu (Tao-Te-Ching).*

Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1963. UCSB, BL1900.L3 C44 1963

-- very scholarly; great resource; lots of notes, explanation, commentary

Chen, Ellen M. Trans. *The Tao Te Ching: A New Translation and Commentary.* New York: Paragon House, 1989. SBCC, 299.514 L298TC

UCSB, BL1900.L26 E5 1989 ---an explicating commentary; excellent resource

Chohan, Chou-Wing, Abe Bellenteen, and Rosemary Brant. Trans. *Tao Te Ching: The Cornerstone of Chinese Culture.* Israel: Astrolog Publishing House, 2002.

-- notes on every poem

Duyvendak. J. J. L. Trans. *Tao Te Ching. The Book of the Way and Its Virtue.*

London: J. Murray, 1954. UCSB, BL1900.L3 D8 1954

Feng, Gia-fu, and Jane English. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. New York: Knopf, 1974.

-- astute and measured translation (it walks the middle way betw. dynamic equivalent & formal correspondence); concise, sensitive, accessible without losing the sense of challenge and mystery; Needleman's introduction is splendid

Freke, Timothy. Trans. *Lao Tzu's Tao Te Ching*. London: Piatkus Publishers Ltd., 1999.

-- very much a dynamic equivalence approach; very contemporary; caution advised

Grigg, Ray. Trans. *The New Lao Tzu: A Contemporary Tao Te Ching*. Boston: C.E. Tuttle Co., 1995. P.L. Central, NF299.51482

Henricks, Robert G. Trans. *Te-Tao Ching: A New Translation Based on the Recently Discovered Ma-Wang-Tui Texts*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1989.

UCSB, BL1900.L25 E5 1989; SBCC, 299.514 L298TH --unearthed in 1973, the Mawangdui (or silk mss.) were the oldest mss. of the Lao Tzu, dating to c. 200BCE until the Guodian discovery; significant as the Tao and Te canons are reversed !

Henricks, Robert G. Trans. *Lao Tzu's Tao Te Ching. A Translation of the Startling New Documents Found at Guodian*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000.

-- the only English translation to date of the archaeological discovery near Guodia, China of a version of the Lao Tzu on bamboo slips; representing only 40% of what we've come to know as the Received Text; this is the oldest ms. now, c.300BCE

Hinton, David. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. Washington, DC: Counterpoint, 2000.

-- excellent on history of times! Nice, brief glossary

La Fargue, Michael. Trans. *The Tao of the Tao Te Ching: A Translation and Commentary*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1992.

Lau, D.C. Trans. *Lao Tzu: Tao Te Ching*. NY: Penguin Books, 1963.

-- translation is scholarly, fairly formal diction; excellent footnotes that often give insight into historical or religious context; informative introduction; glossary of historical books, names, places; shows where rhyming would have appeared in orig.

Legge, James. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, 1997 (1891).

--very cheap republication of Legge's essential early translation--well worth just to see

Le Guin, Ursula, with J.P. Seaton. Trans. *Lao Tzu Tao Te Ching. A Book about the Way & the Power of the Way*. Boston: Shambhala, 1998

-- Le Guin's personal and poetic rendition is intuitive & fresh; observational notes

Levi, Jean. Trans (French). *The Complete Tao Te Ching with the Four Canons of the Yellow Emperor*. English trans. by Jody Gladding. Rochester, VT: Inner Traditions, 2011.

-- shows other texts influenced by TTC; in Mawangdui order; very informative intro.

Mair, Victor H. Trans. *Tao Te Ching: The Classic Book of Integrity and the Way / Lao Tzu*. New York: Bantam Books, 1990. P.L. Central, NF299.51482

-- based on discovered (in 1973) Ma-Wang-tui mss., that reverses the canons of te & tao; etymological glossary; discussion of orality theory; proposal for Indian-yogic connection with Taoism – Tao Te Ching // Bhagavad Gita & Upanishads

Mitchell, Stephen. Trans. *Tao Te Ching: A New English Version*. New York: Harper & Row, 1988. P.L. Carpinteria, NF299.5148

-- very dynamic equivalent; read in comparison w/others for contemporary feel

Muller, Charles. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. New York: Barnes & Noble Classics, 2005.

-- good intro. w/timeline

Pine, Red. Trans. *Lao-Tzu's Taoteching. With selected commentaries of the past 2000 years*. 2nd ed. San Francisco: Mercury House, 1996.

-- a must have due to the historical commentaries included—gives a glimpse into the interpretive history; interesting yet fairly brief intro.

Roberts, Moss. Trans. *Dao De Jing, The Book of the Way*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001.

-- the translation tends to be stiff due to diction and form choices (he tries to rhyme where orig. did); commentaries after each chapter and extensive notes; makes comparisons with the Mawangdui and Guodian texts; informative introduction

Star, Jonathan. Trans. *Tao Te Ching. The Definitive Edition*. New York: Jeremy Tarcher /Putnam, 2001.

-- focused on the challenge of translation, this hard-cover book offers verbatim translation for every character in every poem & includes commentary; sounds like an essential resource for really getting at the original text, but I've not yet used it

Waley, Arthur. Trans. *The Way and Its Power. Lao Tzu's Tao Te Ching and Its Place in Chinese Thought*. New York: Grove Press, 1958. --one of the best (& longest) intro.s on history, culture, linguistics, authorship, schools of Taoist thought I've ever read

Walker, Brian Browne. Trans. *The Tao Te Ching of Lao Tzu*. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 1995.

-- a dynamic equivalent approach; for the reader-lite

Watson, Burton. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub. Co., 1993.

Wu, John C.H. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. Boston, Shambala Publication

-- thoughtful, sensitive, middle way approach to translation; has facing page Chinese characters; but, NO notes, commentary, intro. !

Large pictorial books

Dale, Ralph Alan. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. New York: Barnes & Noble Books, 2002.

Feng, Gia-Fu and Jane English. Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. New York: Vintage Books, 1972.

-- calligraphy by Feng, photography by English; no forward by Needleman

McDonald, John H., Trans. *Tao Te Ching*. London: Arcturus Publishing, Ltd, 2010.

Context & Commentary

Blofeld, John, *Taoism; The Road to Immortality*, Shambhala, Boston 1985.

Chang, Chung-yuan. *Tao: A New Way of Thinking*. New York: Harper & Row, 1975.

-- its intro & commentaries are geared toward interpreting the text per a specific angle of Western philosophy, primarily that of Heidegger—an interesting read

Chen, Ellen M. *Tao. Nature Man: A Study of the Key Ideas in the Tao Te Ching*. New York, 1966. UCSB, BL1900.L31 C45

Ching, Julia. *Chinese Religions*. New York: Orbis Books, 1993. SBCC, 200.951 C539c

Cleary, Thomas F. *The Essential Tao: An Initiation Into the Heart of Taoism Through The Authentic Tao Te Ching and the Inner Teachings of Chuang Tzu*. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1991. P.L. Central, NF299.51482

-- a selected look into the two essential texts of Taoism includes a chapter on historical background of the two books & the rise of the philosophy

_____. *The Taoist I Ching*. Boston: Shambhala Publications, Inc., 1986.

-- excellent book for anyone interested in Taoism and its relationship with the I Ching

Grigg, Ray. *The Tao of Zen*. Boston: C.E. Tuttle Co., 1994.

-- excellent look at the many connections between Taoism & Buddhism !

Hooper, Richard. *Jesus, Buddha, Krishna, Lao Tzu: The Parallel Sayings*. Sedona: Sanctuary Publications, 2008.

-- point here is that all 4 said much the same in different times & places; I recommend

Kohn, Livia and Michael LaFargue. Eds. *Lao-tzu and the Tao-te-ching*. New York: State University of New York Press, 1998.

-- good resource for scholarship, includes ancient mythology, Chinese interpretations, modern readings, & critical attention to language issues

LaFargue, Michael. *Tao and Method: A Reasoned Approach to the Tao Te Ching*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1994. UCSB, BL1900.L35 L32 1994

James Legge. Trans. *The Sacred Books of China: The Texts of Taoism*. New York: Dover Publications, 1962. SBCC,299.514L513

Mitchell, Stephen. *The Second Book of the Tao*. New York: Penguin Press, 2009.

-- drawn from the work of Lao Tzu's follower Chuang Tzu and Confucius's grandson Tzu Ssu; great look at how the TTC influenced both lines of thought & their convergences; excellent intro. & commentaries

Palmer, Martin. *The Elements of Taoism*. Dorset, UK: Elements Books, LTD., 1991.

Watts, Alan, with Al Chung-Liang Huang. *Tao: The Watercourse Way*. New York: Arkana, Penguin Books, 1975

-- an exploration into the Tao Te Ching & Taoist philosophical concepts, making their complexities accessible; wonderfully illustrated with Chinese calligraphy

Wildish, Paul. *Principles of Taoism*. London: Thorsons, 2000.

-- small book; good for getting the basics

Wei, Henry, Ed. *The Guiding Light of Lao Tzu: A New Translation and Commentary on the Tao Teh Ching*. Wheaton: Theosophical Publishing House, 1982.

SBCC, 299.514 L298TW UCSB, BL1900.L26 E5 1982b

Wong, Eva. *Teachings of the Tao*. Boston: Shambhala Publications, 1997.

-- selected excerpts from Taoist spiritual traditions categorized and with some comment; shamanic origins; devotional, mystical, alchemical, ceremonial texts; longevity; variety of texts which make up the larger Taoist canon

Yutang, Lin. Trans. *The Wisdom of Lao-tse*. New York: Modern Library, 1983.

SBCC, 299.514 L298T16

Related

Blofeld, John E. *Beyond the Gods: Taoist & Buddhist Mysticism*. New York: Dutton, 1974.

Capra, Fritjof. *The Tao of Physics*. Boston: Shambhala, 1975.

Palmer, Martin and Elizabeth Breuilly. Eds. *The Book of Chang Tzu*. New York: Arkana, Viking Penguin, 1996.

Rosen, David, M.D. *The Tao of Jung. The Way of Integrity*. New York: Arkana, Viking Penguin, 1996. -- "... links Jung with Lao Tzu in a way that throws new light on Taoism and the psychology of the Self."

