



Messenger of the Heart: The Book of Angelus Silesius, with observations by the ancient Zen masters (Spiritual Masters)

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The timeless wisdom embedded in these humble rhymes is beautifully echoed by the observations of the ancient Zen masters which punctuate the text, and in the haiku-like drawing by Frederick Franck.

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Editorial Review

From the Publisher

This is not a book for speed-reading! Each verse and every quotation from the Eastern Masters deserves being pondered in the heart. A few minutes of "pointed mindfulness" add more to our life-experience than several years of rushing while sleepwalking. For meditation takes place "across the line called time," in the timeless. If I did not think this to be a necessary book, I would not have written it. Necessary for whom? For my friends and companions on the Way, whether I have met them or not. For all those who in the noise of our time feel a new need for inwardness. For all who may share my delight in discovering a Western Zen poet, who expresses in the traditional language of our own culture what we are apt to believe only the enlightened ones of the East have attained. For in this Western Zen poet I found a bridge between the essential insights of East and West. Such a bridge is proof—ever needed again—that although human beings from the East and the West may! differ in many things, they share the Inner Light, the Buddha Nature—to paraphrase Hui Neng. If I had another hundred years to live, I would postpone finishing this book. But alas, I don't have another century, at most a few years, one, or two, or ten. This book is essentially a translation of a little book I re-discovered while browsing in a secondhand bookshop in Copenhagen on a stopover during my third trip to Japan. Its title: *Der Cherubinische Wandersmann* (The Cherubic Wanderer). Its author: the seventeenth century mystical poet Angelus Silesius, who lived in a century of upheavals, wars, and revolutions, a time of religious conflict, almost as troubled as ours.

About the Author

Frederick Franck (1910-2006) was the author of more than thirty books, including "The Zen of Seeing" (Random House), and the award-winning "Pacem in Terris: A Love Story (Codhill), " as well as an editor of "What Does it Mean to be Human" (St. Martin's Press), recently translated into Spanish and Chinese. He was honored with the World Citizenship Award by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, and his sculpture and artwork are in the permanent collections of The Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, the Tokyo National Museum, and other public and private collections.

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Chapter 1: Seen by the eye of faith the cherry blossoms are always about to fall. It is a rare privilege to be born as a human being, as we happen to be. If we do not achieve enlightenment in this life, when do we expect to achieve it? —Echu There is that which precedes heaven and earth. It is formless, nameless. The eye cannot perceive it. To speak of it as mind or Buddha is inexact, then it becomes again something in our imagination. The Tao cannot be expressed in words. —Dai-o-Kokushi There is no here, no there. Infinity lies before our eyes. —Sengtsan A man who has seen into his Self nature, sees it whenever questioned about it. —Hui Neng Do not compute eternity as light-year after year. One step across that line called Time: Eternity is here. The rose that with my mortal eye I see flowers in God through all eternity. How fleeting is this world ... yet it survives. It is ourselves that fade from it and our ephemeral lives. Were I to lose myself in Him I'd find again the Ground that held and nurtured me before this earthly round.

Users Review

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Joan Rogers:

This Messenger of the Heart: The Book of Angelus Silesius, with observations by the ancient Zen masters (Spiritual Masters) book is not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is definitely information inside this e-book incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. This particular Messenger of the Heart: The Book of Angelus Silesius, with observations by the ancient Zen masters (Spiritual Masters) without we know teach the one who looking at it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't be worry Messenger of the Heart: The Book of Angelus Silesius, with observations by the ancient Zen masters (Spiritual Masters) can bring once you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even phone. This Messenger of the Heart: The Book of Angelus Silesius, with observations by the ancient Zen masters (Spiritual Masters) having great arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Christine Furst:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be revise about what going on or info even knowledge to make them keep up with the era that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe can update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to you is you don't know which one you should start with. This Messenger of the Heart: The Book of Angelus Silesius, with observations by the ancient Zen masters (Spiritual Masters) is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Jeanie Hynes:

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Robert Rascoe:

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your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

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