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The Secret Of The Golden Flower: A Chinese Book Of Life



Synopsis

If we meditate effectively the result should always manifest in some form of an out of body experience or as others refer to - Astral Travel. While this endeavor takes practice and time, this book, regardless of the translation is broadly considered the most effective book to teach practical and result oriented meditation and Astral Travel. Bar none!

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Customer Reviews

I thought I was buying the Richard Wilhelm translation with a foreword by CG JUNG as it appeared in the catalog but this is a very inferior version and I CAN'T CANCEL THE ORDER. SO MUCH FOR !

A very interesting and meaningful book to say the least. And like Jung, gratitude must be given Richard Wilhelm for his insight in the East and translation of the text. A manual written symbolically for the practice of meditation, where thoughts are reduced to the square inch between the eyes, the eye lids half closed, eyes centered near the tip of the nose, the heart rate next to nothing in quietude, controlled breath of a circular motion that becomes quiet. The "white light" so spoken in

Buddhist terms and various states of consciousness are related. However, this is far more than a mere meditation manual, but symbols which convey non-intellectual ideas, that is, non-Western rationalism, and yet significant and advanced in both its teaching and applications. Ultimately for myself, it is Jung's commentary that my Western mind needed to interpret the text itself and the subsequent interpretations. I am moved in profundity on Jung's analysis that man's consciousness advances non-rationally, but psychically. Where the advancement cannot be spoken or written of in intellectual terms but rather can be done so in symbols. In this, Jung expounds on the idea that symbols convey advanced images that relate to the psyche and can never be proved intellectually or rationally. This is where images, as in Mandalas, come in. Images and symbols speak what words cannot. They are of a higher conscious level awareness, a psychical advancement. None of this is rationally or mathematically equated, none, nor can it be linguistically conveyed. Humans can only point, using symbols and images, they can not expound, explain and reason on such. Jung acknowledges the law of opposites and how the Chinese contain a higher culture or mind than the West, one that can contain contradictions or opposites without one-sided fundamentalism. And this is no doubt far ahead of most Western thinking in terms of black and white thinking, or what Jung calls barbarism. This reminds me of Walt Whitman's self poem of containing all contradictions and Keats "negative capabilities" and Shakespeare's comments on having all thoughts together without becoming irritable over such, and that including the beat poet, Allen Ginsberg, who spoke of the same. In Jung's memorial words dedicated to Richard Wilhelm, he relates to his thoughts on Synchronistic principle, which confirm his validity on the practices of Chinese wisdom found in I-Ching and Astrology, both sciences based not on Newtonian, or causality principles but rather through a remarkable phenomena of the unconscious, psychic parallelisms based which cannot be related to each other causally. The Tao will never be created with words and concepts, a teaching that is absent from the history of philosophy since the time of the pre-socratic, Heraclitus, and only reappears as a faint echo in Leibnitz.

I am sorry to say that the Kindle edition of this book requires proof-reading and correction. I have no explanation for how such an important piece of the classic literature on meditation could have been treated so lightly, but perhaps there still remains the possibility that the error shall be rectified. Kindle? What say you?

Richard Wilhelm has succeeded in making an elegant and beautiful translation of this work. It is filled with important spiritual concepts and insights; which he has made accessible to the English

speaking reader. This inspired translation, glows with the warmth of wisdom, while offering many ancient truths. I have gifted copies of this book to friends, all of whom have found it full of rewarding insights and knowledge. This is the sort of book to be reread often, and is one in which new insights seem always be waiting.

Hard to understand

Great

An important part of the spiritual life, though in some places a bit vague in the manner of the Asian Occult. It describes a meditation that requires a lifetime to bring to fruition, but worth it if you believe.

Came in the condition that was expected.

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