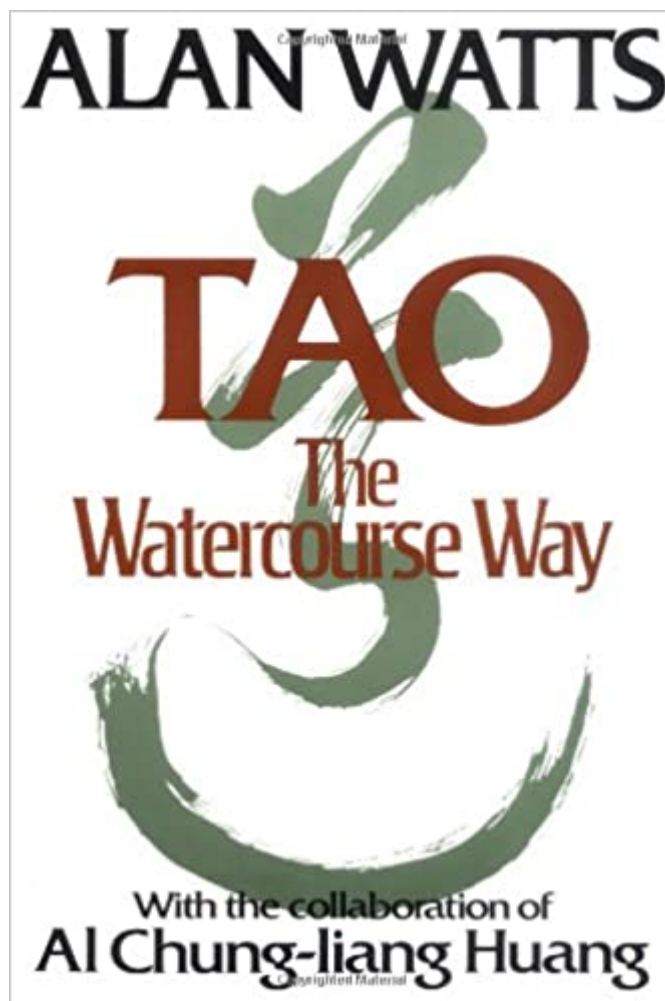


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# Tao: The Watercourse Way



## Synopsis

Drawing on ancient and modern sources, Watts treats the Chinese philosophy of Tao in much the same way as he did Zen Buddhism in his classic *The Way of Zen*. Critics agree that this last work stands as a perfect monument to the life and literature of Alan Watts.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A gem to remember Watts by . . . There is a flamboyant and fascinating display of learning and complex indications of a personality that seems to have resisted inner pacification." [Kirkus Reviews](#)"Perhaps the foremost interpreter of Eastern disciplines for the contemporary West, Alan Watts had the rare gift of 'writing beautifully the unwritable' . . . Watts begins with scholarship and intellect and proceeds with art and eloquence to the frontiers of the spirit . . . This is a profound and worthy work, left by a teacher to echo and re-echo." [Los Angeles Times](#)"A remarkable book because of Alan Watts's talent for communicating Eastern ways of thought . . . not only the last of his works, but the best . . . This book is a 'must.'" [Shambhala Review](#)"Watts's last book is in the category of his finest work, a lucid discussion of Taoism and the Chinese language . . . profound, reflective, and enlightening. Moreover, the text supplies a sense of his ebullient spirit behind the revelation of Tao." [Boston Globe](#)

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stands as a perfect monument to the life and literature of Alan Watts.

Alan Watts is a true master of bringing the Eastern thought into the Western sphere of thinking. Much like "Spirit of Zen", Watts uses his wording and expressions, as well as citing sources from the tradition, to gently introduce Taoism to one unfamiliar with the philosophy/religion/lifestyle. With beautiful Chinese calligraphy, history, and philosophy, Watts skillfully expresses the mystical and natural way of the Tao. While it is truly impossible to describe what is beyond description, beyond thought or concepts ("The Dao that can be spoken of is not the true Tao.. from the Tao te Ching), Watts does a fine job.

Ancient ideas have a modern application to the world's confusion. Read and enjoy old time wisdom!

So good I am going to read it twice more. There is a lot of deep meaning in this work that one must come back to it again to gain the benefit of the book and knowledge within.

I read this years ago. Liked it then. Still like it. Watts is probably the best westerner to interpret Eastern thought, at least the Tao. If you want to get a good feel for Taoist things in a compact format this is the place. Older but still very relevant.

If you have any interest in Taoism (Daoism) at all, this is the entry book for you. Alan Watt is a wonderful writer and story teller and he explains this philosophy better than any one else. It is a perfect primer for this cogent and appealing eastern philosophy

Purchased as a gift for my husband (but then, too, as an anticipated book to be borrowed by me!). We knew already that it would be a valued addition to our metaphysical library. Very pleased to have it, of course. Highly recommend it to others.

A short, clear, and insightful book on the exploration of Tao. Alan Watts is a brilliant mind and has some witty prose which makes the book a very quick and enjoyable read. This book is a good primer for anybody interested in the way of Tao, and I only leave one star off the rating because I wish it could have been a little longer.

Tis book started slow, but by the end of twenty p[ages one is ready to follow the journey to the end

of the book. It is hard to believe one person started this book and another person finished it - the style flows well and celebrates the message of the author by allowing the reader to share in the experience as a present moment of intuitive awareness.

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