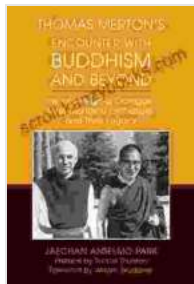


Thomas Merton's Encounter with Buddhism and Beyond



Thomas Merton's Encounter with Buddhism and Beyond: His Interreligious Dialogue, Inter-monastic Exchanges, and Their Legacy by Encyclopaedia Universalis,

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1024 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 320 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Thomas Merton was a Trappist monk and one of the most influential spiritual writers of the 20th century. He was also a pioneer in the interfaith dialogue between Christianity and Buddhism. In his book *The Seven Storey Mountain*, Merton describes his early life and his conversion to Catholicism. He also writes about his experiences with Buddhism and how they influenced his understanding of Christianity.

Merton first encountered Buddhism while he was a student at Columbia University. He was drawn to the Buddhist teachings on meditation and mindfulness. He also appreciated the Buddhist emphasis on compassion and non-attachment. Merton began to practice meditation and he found that it helped him to deepen his understanding of Christianity.

In 1949, Merton traveled to India to meet with the Dalai Lama. The two men had a long conversation about the similarities and differences between Christianity and Buddhism. Merton was impressed by the Dalai Lama's wisdom and compassion. He also saw that there was much that Christianity could learn from Buddhism.

Merton's encounter with Buddhism had a profound impact on his life and work. He became a more compassionate and understanding person. He also developed a deeper appreciation for the diversity of religious traditions. Merton's writings on Buddhism have inspired many people to explore the interfaith dialogue between Christianity and Buddhism.

Merton's Insights into Buddhism

Merton's insights into Buddhism are profound and insightful. He saw that Buddhism and Christianity share many common values, such as compassion, non-violence, and the search for enlightenment. However, he also recognized that there are some important differences between the two traditions.

One of the most important differences between Christianity and Buddhism is the way they view the self. In Christianity, the self is seen as a unique and individual entity. In Buddhism, the self is seen as an illusion. Merton believed that the Buddhist understanding of the self is more accurate and that it can lead to a deeper experience of reality.

Another important difference between Christianity and Buddhism is the way they view the world. In Christianity, the world is seen as a fallen place. In Buddhism, the world is seen as a place of suffering. Merton believed that

the Buddhist view of the world is more realistic and that it can lead to a more compassionate and understanding attitude towards life.

Merton's insights into Buddhism are a valuable resource for anyone who is interested in the interfaith dialogue between Christianity and Buddhism. His writings can help us to understand the similarities and differences between the two traditions and to appreciate the wisdom of both.

Merton's Writing on Buddhism

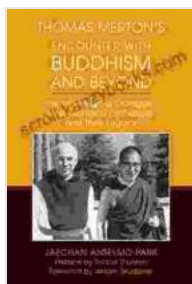
Merton wrote extensively about Buddhism. His writings on the subject include:

- *The Seven Storey Mountain* (1948)
- *The Way of Chuang Tzu* (1965)
- *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander* (1966)
- *The Climate of Monastic Prayer* (1969)
- *Zen and the Birds of Appetite* (1968)

Merton's writings on Buddhism are a must-read for anyone who is interested in the interfaith dialogue between Christianity and Buddhism. They are full of insights and wisdom that can help us to understand the similarities and differences between the two traditions and to appreciate the wisdom of both.

Thomas Merton's encounter with Buddhism was a profound and transformative experience. It led him to a deeper understanding of Christianity and to a greater appreciation for the diversity of religious traditions. Merton's writings on Buddhism are a valuable resource for

anyone who is interested in the interfaith dialogue between Christianity and Buddhism. They are full of insights and wisdom that can help us to understand the similarities and differences between the two traditions and to appreciate the wisdom of both.

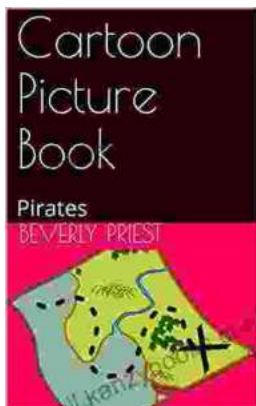


Thomas Merton's Encounter with Buddhism and Beyond: His Interreligious Dialogue, Inter-monastic Exchanges, and Their Legacy

by Encyclopaedia Universalis,

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1024 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 320 pages
Lending : Enabled



Cartoon Picture Book Pirates by Erica Silverman

Ahoy, Matey! Set Sail for Adventure with Cartoon Picture Book Pirates Prepare to hoist the sails and embark on an unforgettable adventure with the beloved children's book,...



Biography of One of the Great Poets in American History

Prologue: The Birth of a Literary Icon In a quaint town nestled amidst rolling hills and murmuring rivers, nestled the humble beginnings of a literary...