

The Inner Chapters Zhuangzi

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Chuang Tzu Zhuangzi 1997 "Revered for millennia in the Chinese spiritual tradition, Chuang Tzu stands alongside the Tao Te Ching as a founding classic of Taoism. The Inner Chapters are the only sustained section of this text widely believed to be the work of Chuang Tzu himself, dating to the fourth century B.C.E." "But this is an ancient text that yields a surprisingly modern effect. In bold and startling prose, David Hinton's translation captures the "zany texture and philosophical abandon" of the original. The Inner Chapters fantastical passages - in which even birds and trees teach us what they know - offer up a wild menagerie of characters, freewheeling play with language, and surreal humor. And interwoven with Chuang Tzu's sharp instruction on the Tao are short-short stories that are often rough and ribald, rich with satire and paradox." "On their deepest level, the Inner Chapters are a meditation on the mysteries of knowledge itself."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved
Zhuangzi: Basic Writings Zhuangzi 2003-04-16 Only by inhabiting Dao (the Way of Nature) and dwelling in its unity can humankind achieve true happiness and freedom, in both life and death. This is Daoist philosophy's central tenet, espoused by the person—or group of people—known as Zhuangzi (369?–286? BCE) in a text by the same name. To be free, individuals must discard rigid distinctions between right and wrong, and follow a course of action not motivated by gain or striving. When one ceases to judge events as good or bad, man-made suffering disappears, and natural suffering is embraced as part of life. Zhuangzi elucidates this mystical philosophy through humor, parable, and anecdote, using non sequitur and even nonsense to illuminate truths beyond the boundaries of ordinary logic. Boldly imaginative and inventively written, the Zhuangzi floats free of its historical period and society, addressing the spiritual nourishment of all people across time. One of the most justly celebrated texts of the Chinese tradition, the Zhuangzi is read by thousands of English-language scholars each year, yet, until now, only in the Wade-Giles romanization. Burton Watson's conversion to pinyin in this book brings the text in line with how Chinese scholars, and an increasing number of other scholars, read it.

Zhuangzi Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu) 2018-01-22 Zhuangzi: The Book of CHUANG TZU THIS EDITION: This text contains the seven 'inner' chapters, the fifteen 'outer' chapters, and the eleven 'other' chapters, of a collection of works known as The Zhuangzi, the title being the name of the author: Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu). Alongside the Tao Te Ching, The Zhuangzi is considered a fundamental text of the Taoist tradition. The English text has been translated from the French. (A Dual-Language Book Project) 2Language Books
Zhuangzi's Critique of the Confucians Kim-chong Chong 2016-10-24 Looks at the Daoist Zhuangzi's critique of Confucianism. The Daoist Zhuangzi has often been read as a mystical philosopher. But there is another tradition, beginning with the Han dynasty historian Sima Qian, which sees him as a critic of the Confucians. Kim-chong Chong analyzes the Inner Chapters of the Zhuangzi, demonstrating how Zhuangzi criticized the pre-Qin Confucians through metaphorical inversion and parody. This is indicated by the subtitle, "Blinded by the Human," which is an inversion of the Confucian philosopher Xunzi's remark that Zhuangzi was "blinded by heaven and did not know the human." Chong compares Zhuangzi's Daoist thought to Confucianism, as exemplified by Confucius, Mencius, and Xunzi. By analyzing and comparing the different implications of concepts such as "heaven," "heart-mind," and "transformation," Chong shows how Zhuangzi can be said to provide the resources for a more pluralistic and liberal philosophy than the Confucians. Kim-chong Chong is Professor Emeritus at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He taught at the National University of Singapore from 1980–2003 and is the author of *Early Confucian Ethics: Concepts and Arguments*.

Inner Chapters Zhuangzi 2000 THIS TITLE IS OUT OF PRINT. A NEW EDITION HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN 2008 AS ISBN 978-1-60237-117-0.

The Inner Chapters of Chuang Tzu Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu) 2017-08-11 The Inner Chapters of CHUANG TZU: French to English* The English text has translated from the French.* The French text has been re-worked.* Contains a summary of French grammar.* Contains a Translation Skills Test (with Grammar tips).* Can be read in 'English to French' or 'French to English'. THIS EDITION: This text contains the seven 'inner' chapters of a collection of works known as The Zhuangzi, the title being the name of the author: Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu). Alongside the Tao Te Ching, The Zhuangzi is considered a fundamental text of the Taoist tradition. This volume includes an introductory section summarising the important aspects of French grammar. The digital edition also contains a translation skills test. (Includes verb conjugation and other grammar hints.) The dual-language text has been arranged into small bilingual snippets for quick and easy cross-referencing. The content is ideal for assisting the intermediate language learner to transition to foreign language only content. Also, if the content is too difficult, there is other material put out by 2Language Books that can help. The digital edition also contains the content in 'English to French' format. If you are a beginner, read the native language snippet first. If you are at an intermediate level, read the foreign language snippet first. The advanced level is like the beginners level, except you have to try and figure out the foreign language text, instead of having it provided. One way to do this is to cover the foreign text snippet. In the digital edition, you can take an intermediate or advanced level skills test. Please also note, the print versions in 'English to French' and 'French to English' are two separate books. Many basic language books offer some form of audio support. Internet services - primarily news based radio stations - offer podcasts. Audio from television is an additional resource, and can be formatted for use on various digital platforms. However, if audio is an important component of your interest in languages, electronic devices that support quality text-to-speech (TTS) will likely be appealing. With a library card, TTS technology (in a device that supports the relevant content), and the above mentioned resources (as digital content), an entire language learning system is available for not much more than a cup of coffee! There is no substantial financial outlay to get you started. Furthermore, there are no additional ongoing fees (and updates), and there are no expiry dates on 'premium' content and resources. (A Dual-Language Book Project) 2Language Books

Zhuangzi, Mysticism, and the Rejection of Distinctions Wayne Alt 2000
Experimental Essays on Chuang-Tzu Victor H. Mair 1983-01-01
Daoism Explained Hans-Georg Moeller 2011-04-15 Hans-Georg Moeller has achieved the perfect blend with Daoism Explained. It is both a fascinating introduction on Daoist thought as well as an original and insightful contribution to Eastern philosophy. This book will take the place of *The Tao of Pooh* by Hoff. Like that book, Daoism Explained offers a comprehensive presentation of Daoist philosophy that is interesting and easy to follow. The study sheds new light on many Daoist allegories by showing how modern translations often concealed the original wit and humor of the Chinese original, or imposed alien philosophical frameworks on them. It attempts to take away the metaphysical and Christian disguises with which Daoist philosophy has been obscured by Western interpretations in the past 100 years.

Zhuangzi: The Essential Writings with Selections from Traditional Commentaries Zhuangzi 2009-09-11 This volume is a translation of over two-thirds of the classic Daoist text Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu), including the complete Inner Chapters and extensive selections from the Outer and Miscellaneous Chapters, plus judicious selections from 2000 years of traditional Chinese commentaries, which provide the reader access to the text as well as to its reception and interpretation. Brief biographies of the commentators, a bibliography, a glossary, and an index are also included.

The Inner Chapters Chuang-Tzu 2001-03-15 The Inner Chapters are the oldest pieces of the larger collection of writings by several fourth, third, and second century B.C. authors that constitute the classic of Taoism, the Chuang-Tzu (or Zhuangzi). It is this core of ancient writings that is ascribed to Chuang-Tzu himself.

A Companion to Angus C. Graham's Chuang Tzu Harold David Roth 2003-01-01 In this volume, Roth presents an edited version of these notes along with other essays on the text, philosophy and translation of this beloved Taoist classic. He concludes the volume with a colophon in which he presents a critique of Graham's textual scholarship and an attempt to resolve several outstanding text-historical issues. A complete bibliography of Graham's publications and a detailed index are also included."--BOOK JACKET.

Inner Chapters Zhuangzi 1974

Zhuangzi Bo Wang 2014

The Inner Chapters Chuang-Tzu 2001 First published in 1981, this translation re-ordered the traditional text and left parts un-translated. This edition duplicates the original, correcting only a few mis-prints and adding a transcription conversion table. The volume includes an introduction to Chuang-tzu and Taoism, seven chapters and related passages from the writings of Chuang-tzu, a collection of writings about Chuang-tzu, the essays of the Primitivist, the Yangist miscellany, and the Syncretist writings. c. Book News Inc.

Cultivating Sagehood in the "Zhuangzi" Travis W. Smith 2013 This dissertation presents a detailed explanation of Hanshan Deqing's commentary on the Inner Chapters of the Zhuangzi. I argue that the notion of the Sage is the overarching theme of Hanshan's commentary on the Inner Chapters. I trace this theme through each of the seven Inner Chapters and explain the significant role it plays in understanding the message of the Zhuangzi as well as in revealing the unity and coherency of the Inner Chapters. I argue that a dissertation on Hanshan's commentary is of value for two primary reasons. First, it offers a thematically unified and coherent reading of the Inner Chapters. Secondly, by focusing on the theme of the Sage, Hanshan's commentary highlights the importance of social and political concerns in the Zhuangzi and thereby demonstrates that the issues of skepticism, relativism, and mysticism, which are so important in many Western readings, were not foremost in the minds of many Chinese commentators. In chapter one, I examine Hanshan's commentary on chapter one of the Zhuangzi, which provides a general overview of the entire Inner Chapters. I introduce the theme of the Sage and explain that in order to perfect the substance of the Sage, one must find nourishment in the body of the Dao and via a process of cultivation learn to forget the self, forget merit, and forget name. Highlighting the primary characteristics of the Sage, namely no self, no merit, and no name, I demonstrate how one or more of these characteristics are emphasized in each of the six remaining chapters. For example, in chapter two, I analyze Hanshan's commentary on chapter two of the text and illustrate how the attachment to the self, which Hanshan characterizes in terms of an attachment to the body and a failure to awaken to the Dao, gives rise to the many verbal disputes over right and wrong. In chapter three, I begin with Hanshan's commentary on chapter three and emphasize the theme of forgetting the self by noting that the skill of nourishing life requires one to cultivate the Dao and avoid pursuing merit and fame in an attempt to embellish the body. In the latter half of chapter three, I explore Hanshan's commentary on chapter four of the text and emphasize the social and political aspect of the text by explaining the manner in which the Sage carries out his responsibilities to a ruler. Chapter four examines Hanshan's commentary on chapter five of the text. I discuss several stories about disfigured and deformed individuals, who, according to Hanshan, embody the primary characteristics of the Sage, for they

have succeeded in forgetting the physical form and awakening to the Dao, dispelling any interest in merit and fame, and have acquired the ability to transform others in a noncoercive, nondeliberate manner. In chapter five, I discuss Hanshan's commentary on chapter six of the text and further explore the characteristics of the Sage. I argue that this chapter not only reiterates the need for personal cultivation, highlighting once again the significance of attaining the Dao as well as the burden of having a body, but it also illustrates the personal fruits of this cultivation, namely enabling one to deal with death and illness with equanimity and calm. Finally in chapter six, I explore Hanshan's commentary on chapter seven and illustrate the social and political implications of perfecting the substance of the Sage, for if the timing is right and the situation is fitting, the Sage will accede to his great function of serving as the Enlightened Sovereign. The Sage rectifies himself via a process of personal cultivation whereby he positions himself in the unfathomable homeland of the Dao and in turn spontaneously transforms others via nondeliberate action.

Chuang Tsu Gia-Fu Feng 2008 Religion & beliefs.

New Visions of the Zhuangzi Livia Kohn 2015-03-01

Zhuangzi: The Essential Writings Zhuangzi 2009-03-15 Ideal for students and scholars alike, this edition of Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu) includes the complete Inner Chapters, extensive selections from the Outer and Miscellaneous Chapters, and judicious selections from two thousand years of traditional Chinese commentaries, which provide the reader access to the text as well as to its reception and interpretation. A glossary, brief biographies of the commentators, a bibliography, and an index are also included.

Wandering at Ease in the Zhuangzi Roger T. Ames 2016-01-01 Chinese philosophy specialists examine the Zhuangzi, a third century B.C.E. Daoist classic, in this collection of interpretive essays. The Zhuangzi is a celebration of human creativity -- its language is lucid and opaque; its images are darkly brilliant; its ideas are playful. Without question, it is one of the most challenging achievements of human literary culture. Thematically, the Zhuangzi offers diverse insights into how to develop an appropriate and productive attitude to one's life in this world. Resourced over the centuries by Chinese artists and intellectuals alike, this text has provoked a commentarial tradition that rivals any masterpiece of world literature. Wandering at Ease in the Zhuangzi continues the interpretive tradition as Western scholars shed light on selected passages from the difficult text, offering the needed mediation between available translations of the Zhuangzi and the reader's process of understanding. Taken as a whole, this anthology is a primer on how to read the Zhuangzi.

Essays on Skepticism, Relativism, and Ethics in the Zhuangzi Paul Kjellberg 1996-04-11 The Chinese philosophical text Zhuangzi was written by Zhuangzi in the fourth century BCE. With humor and relentless logic Zhuangzi attacks claims to knowledge about the world, especially evaluative knowledge of what is good and bad or right and wrong. This book is about the man and the text.

???? Chuang Tsu 1974

Zhuangzi and Early Chinese Philosophy Steve Coutinho 2017-03-02 The Daoist philosopher Zhuangzi (also known as Chuang Tzu), along with Confucius, Lao Tzu, and the Buddha, ranks among the most influential thinkers in the development of East Asian thought. His literary style is humorous and entertaining, yet the philosophical content is extraordinarily subtle and profound. This book introduces key topics in early Daoist philosophy. Drawing on several issues and methods in Western philosophy, from analytical philosophy to semiotics and hermeneutics, the author throws new light on the ancient Zhuangzi text. Engaging Daoism and contemporary Western philosophical logic, and drawing on new developments in our understanding of early Chinese culture, Coutinho challenges the interpretation of Zhuangzi as either a skeptic or a relativist, and instead seeks to explore his philosophy as emphasizing the ineradicable vagueness of language, thought and reality. This new interpretation of the Zhuangzi offers an important development in the understanding of Daoist philosophy, describing a world in flux in which things themselves are vague and inconsistent, and tries to show us a Way (a Dao) to negotiate through the shadows of a "chaotic" world.

The Contemplative Foundations of Classical Daoism Harold D. Roth 2021-05-01 Brings early Daoist writings into conversation with contemporary contemplative studies. In The Contemplative Foundations of Classical Daoism, Harold D. Roth explores the origins and nature of the Daoist tradition, arguing that its creators and innovators were not abstract philosophers but, rather, mystics engaged in self-exploration and self-cultivation, which in turn provided the insights embodied in such famed works as the Daodejing and Zhuangzi. In this compilation of essays and chapters representing nearly thirty years of scholarship, Roth examines the historical and intellectual origins of Daoism and demonstrates how this distinctive philosophy emerged directly from practices that were essentially contemplative in nature. In the first part of the book, Roth applies text-critical methods to derive the hidden contemplative dimensions of classical Daoism. In the second part, he applies a "contemplative hermeneutic" to explore the relationship between contemplative practices and classical Daoist philosophy and, in so doing, brings early Daoist writings into conversation with contemporary contemplative studies. To this he adds an introduction in which he reflects on the arc and influence on the field of early Chinese thought of this rich vein of scholarship and an afterword in which he applies both interpretive methods to the vexing question of the authorship of the Inner Chapters of the Zhuangzi. The Contemplative Foundations of Classical Daoism brings to fruition the cumulative investigations and observations of a leading figure in the emerging field of contemplative studies as they pertain to a core component of early Chinese thought. Harold D. Roth is Professor of Religious Studies and East Asian Studies and the Founder and Director of the Contemplative Studies Program at Brown University. His books include The Textual History of the Huai-nan Tzu; Original Tao: Inward Training (Nei-yeh) and the Foundations of Taoist Mysticism; Daoist Identity: History, Lineage, and Ritual (coedited with Livia Kohn); The Huainanzi: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Government in Early Han China and The Essential Huainanzi (cotranslated and edited with John S. Major, Sarah A. Queen, and Andrew Seth Meyer).

Skill and Mastery Karyn Lai 2019-07-12 This valuable collection of illuminating analysis of skill stories from the Zhuangzi, a 4th century BCE Daoist text opens up new lines of inquiry in comparative East-West philosophical debates on skill, cultivation and mastery, as well as cross-disciplinary debates in psychology, cognitive science and philosophy.

All Is Well in the Great Mess: An Adaptation of the Inner Chapters of the Zhuangzi with Reflections Scott P. Bradley 2015-09-01 This book is an adaptation of and interpretive commentary on a portion of the Classical Chinese work known as the Zhuangzi. As such, it is principally a philosophical work. However, since it hopes to stimulate others to grow their own philosophies of life, it might also be described as a work advocating self-improvement.

The Ethical Foundations of Early Daoism Jung H. Lee 2014-04-02 The Ethical Foundations of Early Daoism: Zhuangzi's Unique Moral Vision argues that we can read early Daoist texts as works of moral philosophy that speak to perennial concerns about the well-lived life in the context of the Way. Lee argues that we can interpret early Daoism as an ethics of attunement.

The Inner Chapters of CHUANG TZU Nik Marcel 2017-08-11 The Inner Chapters of CHUANG TZU: English to French -The English text has translated from the French. -The French text has been re-worked. -Contains a summary of French grammar. -Contains a Translation Skills Test (with Grammar tips). -Can be read in 'English to French' or 'French to English'. THIS EDITION: This text contains the seven 'inner' chapters of a collection of works known as The Zhuangzi, the title being the name of the author: Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu). Alongside the Tao Te Ching, The Zhuangzi is considered a fundamental text of the Taoist tradition. This volume includes an introductory section summarising the important aspects of French grammar. The digital edition also contains a translation skills test. (Includes verb conjugation and other grammar hints.) The dual-language text has been arranged into small bilingual snippets for quick and easy cross-referencing. The content is ideal for assisting the intermediate language learner to transition to foreign language only content. Also, if the content is too difficult, there is other material put out by 2Language Books that can help. The digital edition also contains the content in 'French to English' format. If you are a beginner, read the native language snippet first. If you are at an intermediate level, read the foreign language snippet first. The advanced level is like the beginners level, except you have to try and figure out the foreign language text, instead of having it provided. One way to do this is to cover the foreign text snippet. In the digital edition, you can take an intermediate or advanced level skills test. Please also note, the print versions in 'English to French' and 'French to English' are two separate books. Many basic language books offer some form of audio support. Internet services - primarily news based radio stations - offer podcasts. Audio from television is an additional resource, and can be formatted for use on various digital platforms. However, if audio is an important component of your interest in languages, electronic devices that support quality text-to-speech (TTS) will likely be appealing. With a library card, TTS technology (in a device that supports the relevant content), and the above mentioned resources (as digital content), an entire language learning system is available for not much more than a cup of coffee! There is no substantial financial outlay to get you started. Furthermore, there are no additional ongoing fees (and updates), and there are no expiry dates on 'premium' content and resources. (A Dual-Language Book Project) 2Language Books

The Complete Works of Zhuangzi 2013-11-26 Only by inhabiting Dao (the Way of Nature) and dwelling in its unity can humankind achieve true happiness and freedom, in both life and death. This is Daoist philosophy's central tenet, espoused by the person—or group of people—known as Zhuangzi (369?-286? B.C.E.) in a text by the same name. To be free, individuals must discard rigid distinctions between good and bad, right and wrong, and follow a course of action not motivated by gain or striving. When one ceases to judge events as good or bad, man-made suffering disappears and natural suffering is embraced as part of life. Zhuangzi elucidates this mystical philosophy through humor, parable, and anecdote, deploying non sequitur and even nonsense to illuminate a truth beyond the boundaries of ordinary logic. Boldly imaginative and inventively worded, the Zhuangzi floats free of its historical period and society, addressing the spiritual nourishment of all people across time. One of the most justly celebrated texts of the Chinese tradition, the Zhuangzi is read by thousands of English-language scholars each year, yet only in the Wade-Giles romanization. Burton Watson's pinyin romanization brings the text in line with how Chinese scholars, and an increasing number of other scholars, read it.

The Philosophy of Life Guying Chen 2016-01-18 The Philosophy of Life offers a detailed analysis and a unique philosophical, personal and political interpretation of the Zhuangzi. Chen takes Nietzsche's perspectivism as an inspiration to explore Zhuangzi's philosophy of life – in terms of self-cultivation, aesthetics and epistemology.

The Inner Chapters of Zhuangzi Roger Preston Hart 1991

Chuang-tz? Zhuangzi 1986 First published in 1981, this translation re-ordered the traditional text and left parts un-translated. This edition duplicates the original, correcting only a few mis-prints and adding a transcription conversion table. The volume includes an introduction to Chuang-tzu and Taoism, seven chapters and related passages from the writings of Chuang-tzu, a collection of writings about Chuang-tzu, the essays of the Primitivist, the Yangist miscellany, and the Syncretist writings. c. Book News Inc.

The Inner Chapters 2012-01-01 The writings of Chuang Tzu stand alongside the Tao Te Ching as foundational classics of Taoism. Dating back to the fourth century BC, The Inner Chapters is full of fantastical tales that both entertain and provide guidance on living a good life--a gigantic fish that becomes a bird, a cook who never sharpens his blade, a magical being who lives in the mountains, and more. This new luxury edition is distinguished by insightful commentary and superb photographs that convey in their wordless beauty the profound wisdom of Chuang Tzu's text.

Classifying the Zhuangzi Chapters Liu Xiaogan 1994 The relationships, both historical and philosophical, among the Zhuangzi's Inner, Outer, and Miscellaneous chapters are the subject of ancient and enduring controversy. Liu marshals linguistic, intertextual, intratextual, and historical evidence to establish an objectively demonstrable chronology and determine the philosophical affiliations among the various chapters. This major advance in Zhuangzi scholarship furnishes indispensable data for all students of the great Daoist text. In a lengthy afterword, Liu compares his conclusions with those of A. C. Graham and addresses the relationship between the Zhuangzi and the Laozi. Liu Xiaogan is Professor of Philosophy at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The Inner Chapters of CHUANG TZU Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu) 2017-08-11 This text contains the seven 'inner' chapters of a collection of works known as The Zhuangzi, the title being the name of the author: Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu). Alongside the Tao Te Ching, The Zhuangzi is considered a fundamental text of the Taoist tradition. The English text has

been translated from the French.

Basic Writings Chuang-tzu 1996 Chuang Tzu (369?-286? BC) was a leading Taoist philosopher. Using parable and anecdote, allegory and paradox, he set forth in this book the early ideas of what was to become the Taoist school. This collection includes the seven "inner chapters," three of the "outer chapters," and one of the "miscellaneous chapters." Hiding the World in the World Scott Cook 2003-09-25 Presents wide-ranging and up-to-date interpretations of the Zhuangzi, the Daoist classic and one of the most elusive works ever written.

De weg Michael Puett 2016-04-29 De weg biedt een geheel nieuwe kijk op het dagelijks leven. Michael Puett, Harvards populairste docent, laat zien hoe Chinese denkers ons inspireren tot grote en kleine veranderingen. In De weg put hij hiervoor uit het werk van zes grote Chinese filosofen zoals Confucius en Lao Tze. Mede door de waarde die zij aan kleine gebaren, rituelen en goede gewoontes hechten, bieden zij een totaal ander wereldbeeld dan westerse denkers of boeddhistische leraren. De weg daagt ons uit onze diepgewortelde overtuigingen te herzien. Volgens Puett betekent 'het goede leven' niet een groots programma of doel uitvoeren, maar een weg bewandelen. Aan de hand van voorbeelden uit het alledaagse leven, legt Puett de denkbeelden van de oude Chinese filosofen uit. Hij inspireert tot kleine, haalbare veranderingen in onze manier van werken, opvoeden, politiek bedrijven en relaties aangaan, met mogelijk verstrekkende gevolgen voor onszelf en de wereld. De weg biedt een nieuwe kijk op bijna alles!

Chuang-tz? Zhuangzi 1981-01

Zhuang Zi - De volledige geschriften Zhuang Zi 2010-05-19 De Zhuang Zi (spreek uit: Dzwángdzu) is een van de meesterwerken uit de wereldliteratuur. Het werk ontleent zijn naam aan Zhuang Zi (Meester Zhuang de Volkomene), die in de vierde eeuw voor onze jaartelling geleefd moet hebben. Als een van de grondleggende teksten van het taoïsme heeft de Zhuang Zi een grote invloed uitgeoefend op de mystiek en de kunst van het Verre Oosten. Ondanks zijn meer dan tweeduizendjarige ouderdom is de Zhuang Zi nog steeds een van de meest geliefde boeken in China en Japan, een werk vol wijsheid en humor, vol ironie over onze menselijke kennis en wetenschap, en vol kritiek op de schijnheiligheid van zedenmeesters. De Zhuang Zi bestaat uit drie delen, die de innerlijke, de uiterlijke en de gemengde geschriften worden genoemd. De innerlijke geschriften zijn de oudste en worden aan Zhuang Zi zelf toegeschreven. De twee andere delen zijn het werk van zijn navolgers uit de derde eeuw voor onze jaartelling. Toch vormen de verschillende geschriften een aansluitend geheel waarin de steeds vernieuwende gedachtewereld van het taoïsme in zijn volle diepgang tot uitdrukking komt. '