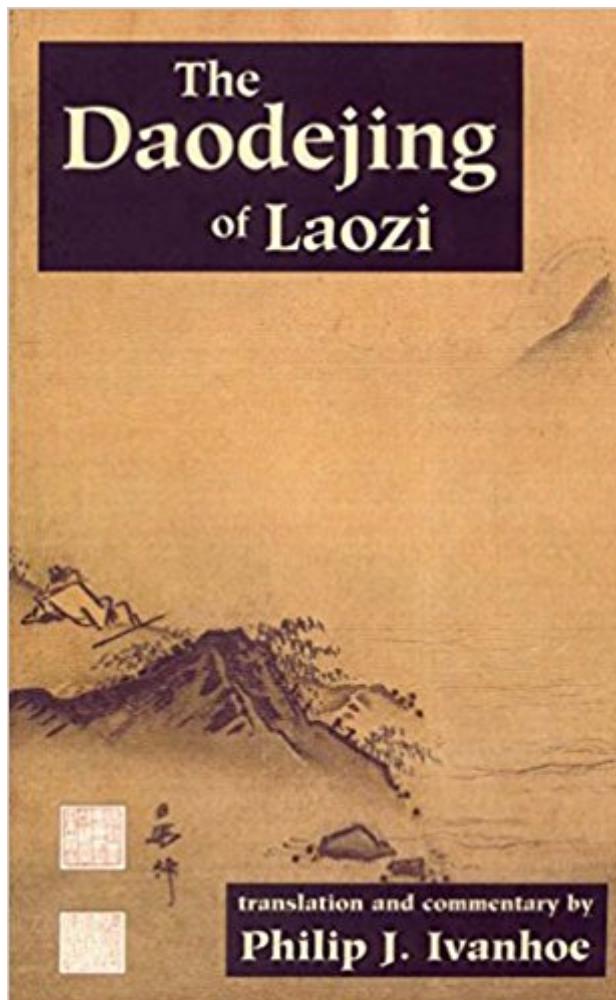


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# The Daodejing Of Laozi (Hackett Classics)



## Synopsis

Philip J. Ivanhoe's richly annotated translation of this classic work is accompanied by his engaging interpretation and commentary, a lucid introduction, and a Language Appendix that compares eight classic translations of the opening passage of the work and invites the reader to consider the principles upon which each was rendered.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is probably the best and most accessible translation of the Daodejing available. It stays true to the original Chinese text, but is also sensitive to its poetic form. Hall and Ames' text is also excellent, but not useful for those who have only a casual interest in the Daodejing. Highly recommend. Also, beware of copies of the Daodejing which purport to be "translations" when they are nothing more than re-imaginings (e.g. Ursula le Guin's, Witter Bynner and Stephen Mitchell's). These people openly state they do not know Classical Chinese and this is evident in their translations.

I have several translations of this ancient philosophical classic. While all of them have their merits, I feel that Ivanhoe's version is lucid enough to recommend to first time readers. He strikes a very nice balance between scholarly rigor and poetry- which is quite a rare feat in translating such an enigmatic work. Although it's always a good idea to refer to multiple versions of this text to get a

good sense of the profound wisdom it contains, if you were trapped on an island with only Ivanhoe's translation you would likely have all you need for a lifetime of Tao cultivation. A real treasure!

Philip J. Ivanhoe has produced an outstanding translation of the Daodejing, noted as such for its clarity and accuracy. Plenty of helpful notes and commentary, a thoughtful introduction by Ivanhoe himself and an interesting appendix explaining the process of translation from Chinese are all great additions to the core text. I wholeheartedly recommend this edition for first-time readers and longtime students of the Daodejing.

This is the only translation of the Dao I've read, so I don't have other references to compare this version to. But, I think the author does a good job of conveying the dual nature of the text, each passage can be interpreted differently and this translation doesn't take that important feature away from English readers. The Dao itself is a masterfully written, thought-provoking text that continues to be relevant in modern times. I haven't read other translations of it, but I can say that I thoroughly enjoyed this one. The Daodejing is short, but it is also profound. It can give you insight into the human spirit, the way of nature, and the meaning of life all in one of the many short paragraphs. Highly recommended to anyone interested in philosophy or knowledge in general.

I rarely review products, just have better ways to spend my time. I got on here just to review this translation. I own a few others, including Stephen Mitchell's (for some reason very famous) which is very derivative. I have no idea why Ivanhoe's work isn't more renowned. But this is amazing. May it change your life like it has mine.

This is a remarkable translation both for its rigor in keeping to the original Classical Chinese text and for the beauty of its prose. I definitely recommend this one for anyone's first taste of the Tao Te Ching.

According to Professor Mark Muesse this is an excellent translation. In comparison to others it seems to capture the mystic sense of the writings. It serves well as a source of meditation.

Bought this for my IH Mosaics class. Found myself actually reading it for fun. Its elegant style makes you question your basic concepts of Tao.

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