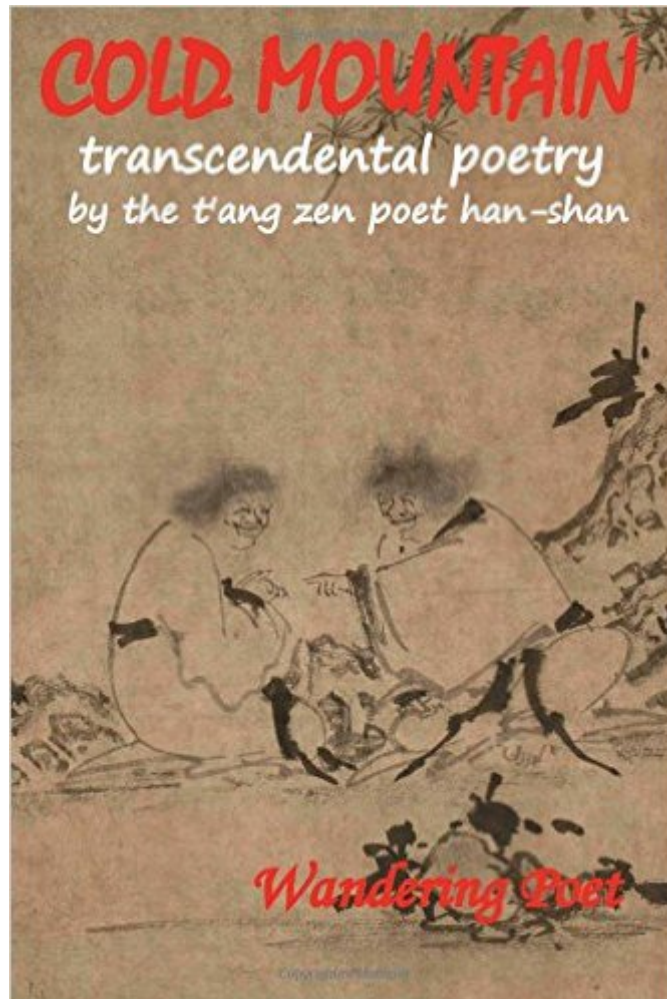


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COLD MOUNTAIN Transcendental Poetry



Synopsis

COLD MOUNTAIN Transcendental Poetry is an expanded 7th edition collection of 100 poems by the Taoist Zen poet, Han-shan. The introduction includes a unique autobiography of the poet, using information drawn exclusively from the poems. The poems were found written on the rocks in a remote region in the Tien Tai mountains in southern China. They tell the story of a gentle recluse and of his long life on Cold Mountain, as a "guest" of nature, living in a cave and foraging for food. Though simple and childlike, the poems are majestic and have the power to lift the reader to share a moment in the poet's heaven. These translations are the very best you will find in English, they are rich with metaphor, and the poetry is close to the heart of Cold Mountain. Happy reading!"Poet, I just finished re-reading the Cold Mountain poems. I love where they put your head." PENELOPE ROSE, staff, Pier 5 Law Offices "This translation of Cold Mountain Transcendental Poetry is Wandering Poet's gift to the Western world. We are greatly enriched by it." J. TONY SERRA, counter culture lawyer "Reading Cold Mountain Transcendental Poetry is a wonderful spiritual experience that I highly recommend." GRANDMASTER BILL DEWART, 9th dan, San Francisco Academy of Tae Kwan Do "I am really enjoying and learning from the Cold Mountain Transcendental Poetry....Thank you!" MALCOLM GUTE, Cambridge "I love having this book of poems in my Kindle. When I am in a doctor's waiting room, or relaxing in a coffee shop, or calming down from a stressful day, or any time I need a mini-getaway, I read these poems. They transport me to another time and place. For a moment I can be on that mountain top with the hermit of long ago." JANET MEANS, storyteller, Phoenix "I am impressed with the quality of these translations of Cold Mountain Transcendental Poetry by Wandering Poet. They are the most accurate of all the English translations available. Moreover, they capture the spirit of the originals, which no other English translation does. In a few of the poems, I like the translation better than the original, the word play, the metaphor, the spirit of the poem. Wandering Poet has done a great service with this translation. I highly recommend Cold Mountain Transcendental Poetry translated by Wandering Poet. It is and will remain the go to collection for lovers of the Cold Mountain poetry." YAO XIAO YING, M.S., San Francisco "Please be our featured poet and read from Cold Mountain." PHILLIP HACKETT, North Beach Poets Gallery, San Francisco

Book Information

Paperback: 142 pages

Publisher: wandering poet (February 24, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0615160069

ISBN-13: 978-0615160061

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,650,272 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #176 in Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > Asian > Chinese

Customer Reviews

Haunting imagery, a record of the thoughts of an ascetic recluse living in China's Tien Tai mountains around 1000 years ago. This was a man who was at one with nature - but clearly there are different levels and themes to be read into the poems. You can enjoy all levels - for transcendental meditation as much as for the spare descriptions of his mountain home. The poet throws out a challenge - "I am not Confucius, my words you will not understand." Perhaps we don't understand them in the way he intended, but we can all enjoy the beauty - "Climbing, there is no easy path, drifting in ruin I pick flowers" or "The moss was too slippery, I could go no further, so I lay down beneath a fragrant tree, pillowed my head on a cloud and went to sleep", or another "Life and death are both beautiful." But what to make of "I realise my whole life has been for nothing, leisure and happiness are the real treasures." The poet's parting words - "Hang them [the Cold Mountain poems] on a wall where you can see them, read them and read them again." I expect I will enjoy many readings, no doubt finding new thoughts to appreciate. The Kindle edition is great value - it includes some delightful artwork, evocative of the Cold Mountain, and a great introduction, framing the life and times of the poet.

While you're trapped in a petty, nasty, egotistical, self-centered world, why not go where so few others have gone before. Travel to a far away world that is still on our planet but so remote that you can get some peace. Go to Cold Mountain and see what your life might have been and that could still be if you can find the vision and the peace in yourself.

So there was this crazy Chinese guy about a thousand years ago who, at the age of 30, left the world of men and went to live on a cold mountaintop alone. He wrote poems on rocks and died at 120 years old. Was it the vegetarian lifestyle? The vigorous days? The magic mushrooms? No one knows. But these poems are calm, contemplative, charming. Makes one want to throw this life over

and live in the mountains. Can I charge my Kindle by a mountain brook?

Did the poet referred to as "Cold Mountain" really abandon society at age thirty to live in the woods for the next 70+ years? All we have left are the poems he inscribed on rocks. This translation seemed to capture the proper poise of the poet's attitude. The translator obviously spent many years carefully rendering these poems in plain, direct and moving English phrases. I'm thankful for both their efforts. I rate it 4 of 5 stars because this version only contains about one third of Cold Mountain's poems.

This is the most accurately and carefully translated version of this beautiful collection of poetry available. It REALLY captures the feeling, word-play and rhythm of the original work much better than other translations. Enjoy!

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