



Iron Flute: 100 Zen Koans

By Nyogen Senzaki, Ruth Stout McCandless

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This book of koans contains some of the most important Zen sayings of all time along with insightful commentary.

Koans are the intellectually unsolvable problem-riddles at the core of the Rinzai tradition of Zen Buddhism, perhaps the most well-known one being "what is the sound of one hand clapping." Though widely recognized, most koan remain narrowly understood.

In this new edition of *The Iron Flute*, one hundred of the most challenging and enlightening koan from the Chinese Chan (Zen) patriarchs of the Tang and Sung dynasties are presented, along with commentary from the great Zen masters Genro, Fugai, and Nyogen, and an in-depth biography of author Nyogen Senzaki (1876-1958), a pioneer in bringing Zen Buddhism to the West. *The Iron Flute* stands alone as the definitive work on koan—an essential pathway to the tenets and practice of Zen Buddhism.

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Iron Flute: 100 Zen Koans By Nyogen Senzaki, Ruth Stout McCandless Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1145239 in eBooks
- Published on: 2011-07-26
- Released on: 2011-07-26
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Review

"A must for all enthusiasts" - The Theosophist "An outstanding book" - The Western Buddhist"

About the Author

Nyogen Senzaki was one of the first Zen masters to come to the United States from Japan. He has authored the Zen classics *Like a Dream, Like a Fantasy, Buddhism* and *Zen* (co-authored with Ruth McCandless), and the bestselling *Zen Flesh, Zen Bones*.

Ruth Strout McCandless was a student of Senzaki and his collaborator in translating a series of Buddhist texts over many years.

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The deepest knowledge in a spiritual tradition can be found in its stories, and in Buddhism these stories are the ancient Koans, used by Zen Monks for centuries to stimulate enlightenment. This collection of Koans was compiled by eighteenth-century Japanese Zen master Genro, who, along with his disciple, Fugai, and a living Zen master, Nyogen Senzaki, comments on each Koan. The lessons are timeless, thought provoking, and utterly satisfying to hear, especially as condensed here and read with so much compassion and authority by McLeod. Listening repeatedly makes them sound even richer and more connected to the heart of what spiritual seekers want. A treasure, deeply soothing to the ear as well as the soul. T.W. © AudioFile 2003, Portland, Maine-- *Copyright © AudioFile, Portland, Maine*

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