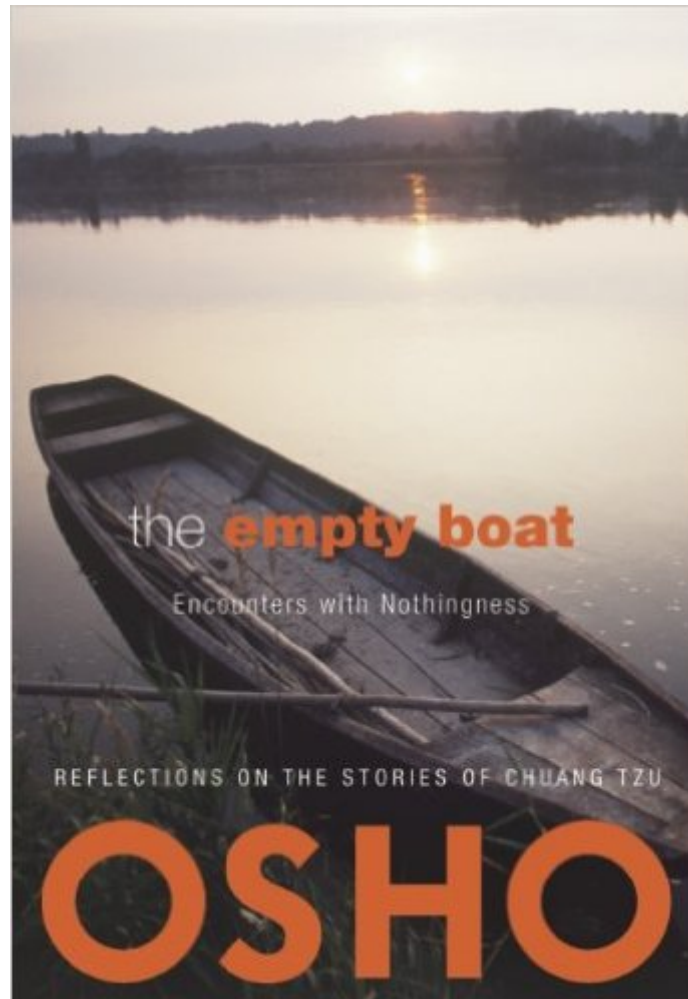


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The Empty Boat: Encounters With Nothingness (OSHO Classics)



Synopsis

In this highly accessible introduction to Zen and its spiritual origins, Osho talks on the stories of Chinese mystic Chuang Tzu, revitalizing the 300-year-old Taoist message of self-realization. He speaks about the state of egolessness, or "the empty boat," spontaneity, dreams and wholeness, living life choicelessly, and meeting death with the same equanimity. This a beautiful new edition overflows with the wisdom of one who has realized the state of egolessness himself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I really, really love this book. It goes against all conventional wisdom for how to live one's life, but is directly in line with the teachings of Taoism, as well as the feelings that have forever dwelled within my own heart. In a world that constantly pounds into our heads the need to be somebody, Osho teaches us of the importance of being nobody. In a world that constantly tells us we need to accomplish things, Osho teaches us that accomplishing things is worthless. In a world that encourages us to be proud of our achievements, Osho teaches that our achievements don't mean anything. Instead, Osho informs us that it is our essence that matters. Who we are at core is what matters, not what we do. When doing comes out of being, there is no conflict. There is no need to seek reward because the reward is in the action itself. Instead of moving toward goals and planning out our lives in such a way that can lead to "success," Osho says that the real joy of living comes through being spontaneous, and through having no expectations. "All that is great, all that is

beautiful, all that is true and real," he says, "is always spontaneous. You cannot plan it.... Do the trees plan how to grow, how to mature, how to come to flower? They simply grow without even being conscious of the growth" (80-81). To be an empty boat means to be free of ego, free of the need to prove oneself, free of the need to be somebody, free of the fear of being nobody, free of the need to win, free of the fear of losing. It means being free to put everything you are into what you do without any attachment to results. What I like about Osho is that he is uncompromising. He doesn't let you feel good about yourself.

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