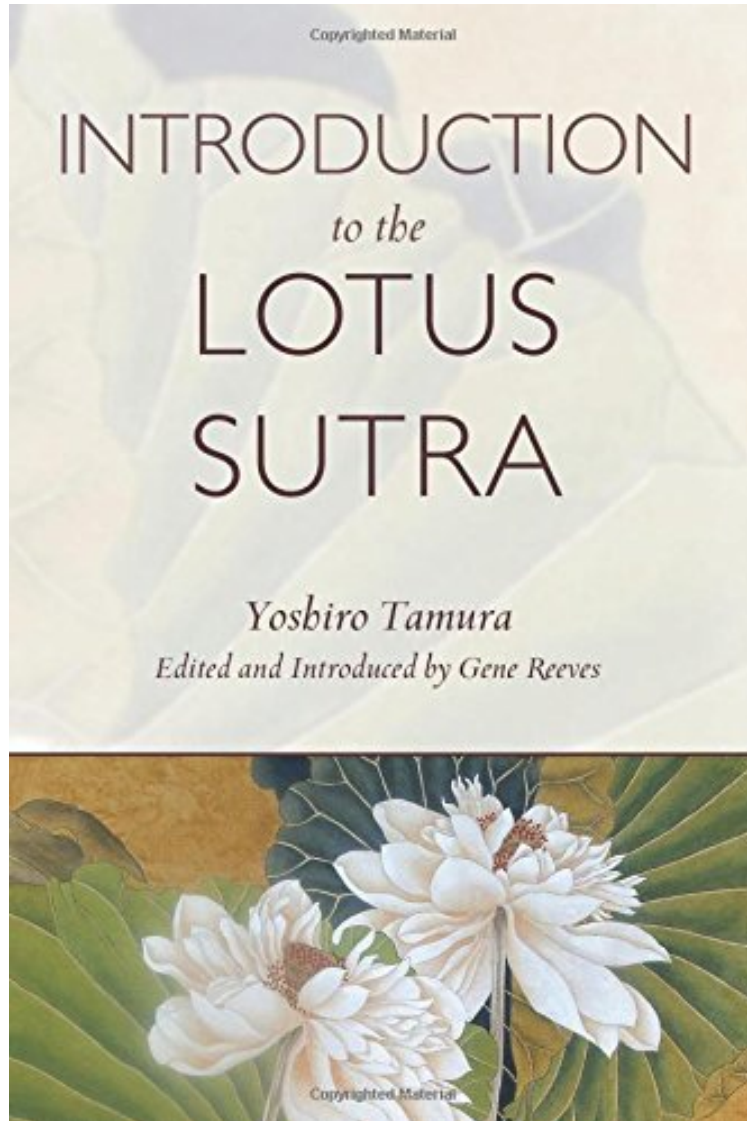


Introduction to the Lotus Sutra

Yoshiro Tamura

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Yoshiro Tamura : Introduction to the Lotus Sutra before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Introduction to the Lotus Sutra:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Useful to both beginners and scholars By Customer I love this book! Prof. Tamura's writings always give me a great inspiration on how to relate to others (things, people, other animals, and my entire surrounding environment) in my everyday life, that is based on the living philosophy of the Lotus Sutra. This small book, which is very useful, I think, to both beginners and scholars of the field, presents a good summary of

main chapters of the Lotus and prominent Buddhist figures in Japan whose lives were transformed by studying and practicing the teachings of the Lotus. I personally like the part of this book that explicates the teachings of the Lotus Sutra such as 'The Everlasting Original Buddha', 'The Bodhisattva Way', and the Tiantai School's doctrine of 'Relative and Absolute Marvel (miao or my)'. These rich contents are beautifully translated by Dr. Gene Reeves and Dr. Michio T. Shinozaki.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Sublime Dharma of Original Enlightenment By Upasaka Heng He Excellent introduction not only for the Sutra text itself, but the tradition that was established upon it. What I like the most is that Mr. Tamura's appraisal of original enlightenment (hongaku) thought is not merely negative as it's usually the case. On the contrary, he sees it as the peak of Buddhist philosophy. Whether you're just scholarly interested in Lotus/Tiantai/Tendai/Kamakura Buddhism/Nichiren Buddhism or a practitioner, this is a MUST-HAVE in both cases. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Gabriel Villanigood book

The Lotus Sutra--one of the most popular Buddhist classics--is here accessibly introduced by one of its most eminent scholars. "Soon after entering university in December of 1943, I was sent to the front as a student soldier. I wondered if I were allowed to bring but a single book on the trip, possibly to my death, which would I want to bring. It was the Lotus Sutra" -- from the author's Preface. Having developed a lifelong appreciation of the Lotus Sutra -- even carrying a dog-eared copy with him through service in World War II -- Yoshiro Tamura sought to author an introduction to this beloved work of Buddhist literature. Tamura wanted it to be different than other basic explorations of the text; his introduction would be plain-spoken, relevant and sensitive to modern concerns, and well-informed by contemporary scholarship. He succeeded marvelously with *Introduction to the Lotus Sutra*, which Gene Reeves -- Tamura's student and translator of the popular English edition of *The Lotus Sutra* -- translates and introduces in English for the first time here. Tackling issues of authenticity in the so-called "words of Buddha," the influence of culture and history on the development of the Lotus Sutra, and the sutra's role in Japanese life, *Introduction to the Lotus Sutra* grounds this ancient work of literature in the real, workaday world, revealing its continued appeal across the ages.

"Learned yet accessible, this *Introduction to the Lotus Sutra* provides an elegant historical, textual, and philosophical overview of key aspects of the background, translation, and development of lived communities centered around what is arguably the most widely disseminated scripture of Mahayana Buddhism." (Mark Unno, editor of *Buddhism and Psychotherapy*) "Tamura offers a gentle and reflective introduction the history of Buddhism, the substance of the Lotus, and the roles of its followers. His teaching nourishes us like the single flavor of the rain falling on all living beings." (Franz Metcalf, author of *Being Buddha at Work*) About the Author Gene Reeves is a Buddhist scholar and teacher, process philosopher, and theologian who has lived in Tokyo for over 23 years studying, teaching, and practicing the Buddhism of the Lotus Sutra. He is a founder of the International Buddhist Congregation with headquarters in Tokyo, a part of the much larger Risho Kosei-kai lay Buddhist organization. He is the translator from Chinese into English of *The Lotus Sutra: A Contemporary Translation of a Buddhist Classic*. His most recently published book is *The Stories of the Lotus Sutra. A Buddhist Kaleidoscope: Essays on the Lotus Sutra*, which he edited, was published in 2002. He retired in 2012 as distinguished professor at Renmin University of China in Beijing and continues to do field research on contemporary Chinese Buddhism in China and serve as an International Advisor at Risho Kosei-kai in Japan. He has taught at the University of Tsukuba in Japan, the University of Peking in China, and at the University of Chicago and Meadville Lombard Theological School, Wilberforce University, and Tufts University in the United States. Born and raised in a small factory town in New Hampshire, Reeves graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in psychology, from Boston University with a degree in theology, and from Emory University with a PhD in philosophy. In addition to his passion for Buddhism, Reeves has been active for over 50 years in civil rights causes, working for a time with Martin Luther King, Jr. and for Chicago Mayor Harold Washington. Reeves is married to Yayoi Reeves and has homes in Tokyo and Chicago. He has two adult daughters who live and work in the United States. Yoshiro Tamura (1921-1989) was a well-regarded scholar of Japanese Buddhism, known particularly for his study of the Lotus Sutra and the traditions that developed around it and the person of Nichiren in Japan. Michio Shinozaki is a long-time member of Risho-Kosei Kai, a popular Japanese lay Buddhist organization, and president of the Risho Kosei-kai Gakurin Seminary in Tokyo. Shinozaki has authored numerous articles on Japanese Buddhist practice for English speaking members of the organization.