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ZEN IN ENGLISH LITERATURE AND ORIENTAL CLASSICS.
By BLYTH, R.H. [Reginald Horace]

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Tokyo [1956], Hokuseido. Blue cloth, 446p., index, 10 illus, bright, crisp copy, dust jacket, very clean & solid copy. A superb classic! What is Zen? Religion is poetry, poetry is every-day life directness is all, subjective & objective, concrete and abstract, the unregarded [sic] river of our life, everything depends on the mind, the mind of man, paradox, Pantheism, mysticism, Zen, non-attachment, death, children, idiots & old men, poverty, animals, Wordsworth, Shakespeare et al. Like all of his books, this is very well written. The celebrated Zen master D.T. Suzuki described Blyth as "one of the most eminent exponents of Japanese culture." BLYTH'S CONTRIBUTION: Blyth lived and worked in the East for forty years, until his death in 1964 at the age of sixty-six. From the time of his internment in Japan during World War II, Blyth wrote assiduously. In the 1950's, his "ZEN IN ENGLISH LITERATURE" and "ORIENTAL CLASSICS" and "HAIKU" reached enthusiastic readers in America and Europe. Aldous Huxley describes Blyth's work as "illuminating." As William J. Higgins writes in his "HAIKU HANDBOOK," thanks to Blyth "a new interest in Japanese Haiku began to grow among poets of the immediate post World War II generation." Blyth's Contribution to cross-cultural understanding was manifold. In 1945, Blyth assumed a post as professor of English at Tokyo's Gakushuin University, the former Peers' School. For almost twenty years he tutored Crown Prince Akihito, the present Emperor. Blyth played a leading role in Emperor Hirohito's historical declaration of January 1, 1946, that he was a human being rather than a god. Blyth edited numerous writings from English and American literature, making them available to avid Japanese readers.

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He expounded his theories in Zen in English Literature and Oriental Classics (1942), Japanese Humor (1957), and the four-volume Haiku (1949-52), and through those books, spurring a generation of Westerners to investigate Zen and Japanese culture. Blyth died in 1964 of a brain tumor. I was a civilian internee from Guam, held with forty-four other men in what we called the "Marks House" (named after the former British owner) in the foreign district of Kobe, near the Tor Hotel. Blyth R H-Zen In English Literature & Or (US IMPORT) BOOK NEW. Condition: New. £26.43 + £3.00 postage. Blyth 9781621389729 New<| 1 -Zen in English Literature and Oriental Classics. Blyth 9781621389729 New<|. £34.55. item 3 Zen in English Literature and Oriental Classics by Blyth, R. H.. 2 -Zen in English Literature and Oriental Classics by Blyth, R. H.. £22.79. About this item. 1942 Zen in English Literature and Oriental Classics published by The Hokuseido Press, Tokyo. 1944 Introduced Robert Aitken to Zen Buddhism during their wartime internment at the Rinkangaku Reform School, in Futatabi Park above Kobe, Japan. Also interned at Futatabi Park were Max Brodofsky and Roy Henning. Zen in English Literature embraces the literature of Zen in Chinese and Japanese, the Chinese and Japanese Classics, and the whole extent of English Literature, with numerous quotations from German, French, Italian and Spanish Literatures. Don Quixote has a chapter all to
himself; he is for the first time, I believe, satisfactorily explained. He is the purest example, in the whole of world literature, of the man who lives by Zen; but Sancho Panza also is not so far from the Kingdom of Heaven as perhaps even his author supposed. Of the Chinese poets, Tōenmei and Hakurakuten, with... SUBSCRIB