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on immovable wisdom and the sword Taie.

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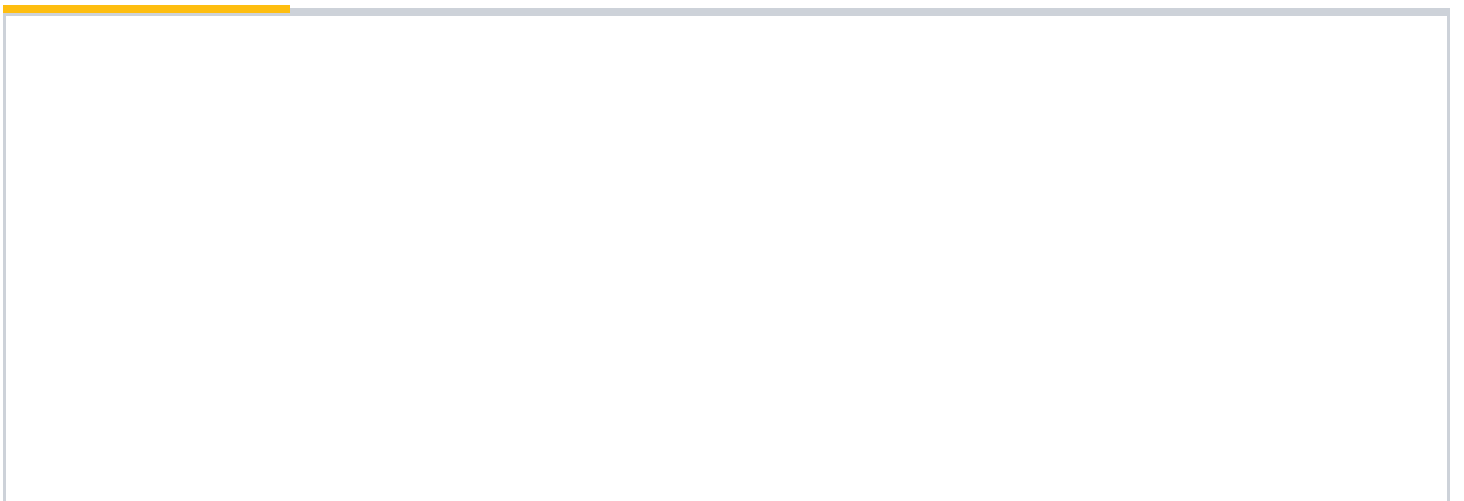
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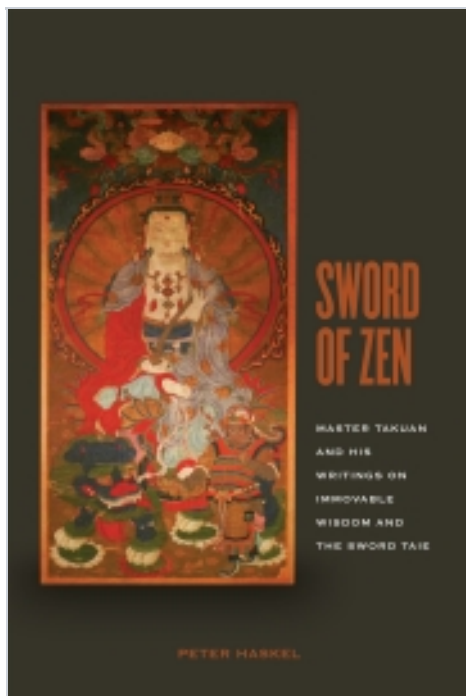


Sword of Zen: Master  
Takuan and His Writings  
on Immovable Wisdom  
and the Sword Taie



In this Book





## **Sword of Zen: Master Takuan and His Writings on Immovable Wisdom and the Sword Tale**

*Peter Haskel*

2012

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### **SUMMARY**

Takuan Sōho's (1573–1645) two works on Zen and swordsmanship are among the most straightforward and lively presentations of Zen ever written and have enjoyed great popularity in both premodern and modern Japan. Although dealing ostensibly with the art of the sword, *Record of Immovable Wisdom* and *On the Sword Taie* are basic guides to Zen—"user's manuals" for Zen mind that show one how to manifest it not only in sword play but from moment to moment in everyday life.

Along with translations of *Record of Immovable Wisdom* and *On the Sword Taie* (the former, composed in all likelihood for the shogun Tokugawa Iemitsu and his fencing master, Yagyū Munenori), this book includes an introduction to Takuan's distinctive approach to Zen, drawing on excerpts from the master's other writings. It also offers an accessible

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