



The Tao of Personal Leadership

By Diane Dreher, Lao Tzu

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Say good-bye to the adversarial samurai managerial principles of the last decade. A new philosophy is sweeping the business world, one that's more in tune with a global marketplace, where cooperation, not competition, is the key to success.

The Tao Te Ching is often hailed as the wisest book ever written; for more than 2,000 years it has inspired and guided people with its precepts of harmony, communication, vision, and renewal. In *The Tao of Personal Leadership*, Diane Dreher combines its ancient wisdom with lessons from successful leaders to provide a practical road map to becoming not just good managers but great leaders. Illustrating her points with examples taken from real life, she explains the basic Taoist principles readers can use to make the most of their resources, transcend conflict, transform problems, adapt to change, and enrich their business, community, and personal lives.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The 81 simple but profound poems of the Tao Te Ching have provided inspiration and guidance for some 2,500 years. Now, educator and consultant Diane Dreher has reinterpreted the timeless observations of Lao-tzu in an effort to give postmodern business leaders a novel yet practical road map to corporate management and personal fulfillment. The result, *The Tao of Personal Leadership*, proves the advice of the ancient Chinese philosopher is as relevant today as when it was written.

From Publishers Weekly

Dreher (*The Tao of Inner Peace*, HarperCollins, 1991; originally published as *The Tao of Peace*, Donale I. Fine, 1990) wonderfully combines her interest in the Tao and her ability to write in this excellent work. The author offers practical, sensible, simple advice in being a Tao leader. She delivers discussions of centeredness, coping with stress, making time for meditation or rejuvenation, the importance of vision, community, and self-respect—all in a readable style. Reading her text is like taking a deep, cleansing breath. The examples and quotations from the Tao Te Ching are beautifully incorporated into the overall message. Leaders and aspiring leaders should read this book. Dreher makes more points and illustrates more truths in fewer words and less meandering than any other recent book on the subject of effective leadership. Readers will want to refer to this book again and again. Recommended for all libraries.

Randy Abbott, Univ. of Evansville Libs., Ind.

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From [Booklist](#)

Taoism, the 2,000-year-old Chinese philosophy, has millions of adherents and has influenced artists and writers not just in the East but also in the West. Its principles have been "applied" to enterprises as diverse as baseball, sex, and investing. Those who see natural patterns in life or in a specific activity are drawn to it. Though many are superficial dabblers, others, such as Dreher, live their lives in the "way of the Tao," seeking harmony with nature and accepting simplicity and spontaneity. Dreher has degrees in English, holistic health, and spiritual counseling, and she teaches classes and conducts workshops on Taoist principles. Here she suggests that those principles and various aspects of Taoism (centering, harmony, joy, renewal, community, vision, etc.) are particularly suited to effective leadership, making the difference between leaders and managers. *David Rouse*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kathryn Robinson:

Do you have favorite book? Should you have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or even goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. These are reading whatever they have because their hobby is actually reading a book. Consider the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book when they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will want this *The Tao of Personal Leadership*.

Clarice Stephens:

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