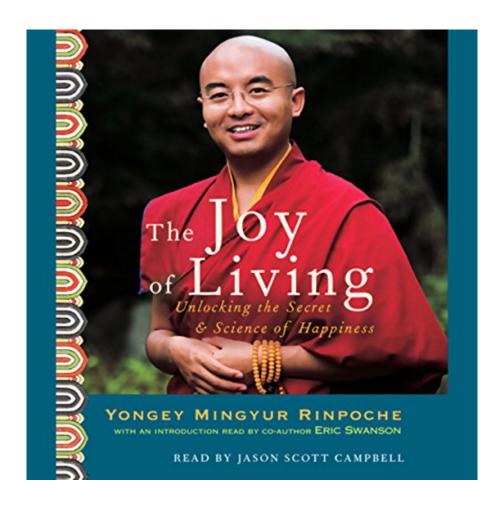


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From Publishers Weekly

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An illuminating perspective on the science of meditation—and a handbook for transforming our minds, bodies, and lives

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Sales Rank: #12969 in AudiblePublished on: 2007-02-08

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Original language: EnglishRunning time: 378 minutes

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The Mind - East meets West

By John Chancellor

We often hear and talk about the different way of thinking - Eastern or Western and left brain vs right brain. But rarely do we see a work that brings it all together in easy to understand language. The Joy of Living really does a great job of explaining how the mind works and how to make the mind work for you and what you want.

"The mind is the source of all experience, and by changing the direction of the mind, we can change the quality of everything we experience. When you transform your mind, everything you experience is transformed."

The book is divided into three parts. Part one is "The Ground". To trully understand the benefits of meditation, you need to understand how the mind works and what we need to do to make it work for us. Here Yongey goes into great detail to explain the different parts of the brain and their function. He also enlightens the reader with the movement of scientific research concerning the mind and how the Eastern and Western thoughs are moving toward the same goal.

Part two is The Path. Here Yongey gives detailed instructions on the various methods of meditating. His explanations are very easy to understand and follow. Unlike many books I have read on meditation, he tries to make it simple and workable. He is not so much concerned with technique as he is with results.

Part three is The Fruits. This is simply a recap of the benefits to be gained from meditation.

Even if you never plan to do any formal meditation, there is a lot to be learned from this book. Basically we grow up thinking in dualistic terms - that is self vs others, mine vs theirs, having or not having. When we think this way, we are bound by limitations. This way of thinking is a habit and habits can be changed.

There are basically two concepts that cause the majority of our problems - attachment and aversion. We become attached to the way we want things to be and have an aversion to change. The lessons about reality and preception are extremely good.

Do not expect to read this book once and become enlightened. There are many concepts that will take time to sink in and become part of your way of thinking. It is a book that will need to be studied and the concepts put into practice to give you the ultimate - The Joy of Living.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

So simple and so true, I recommend this book to everyone looking for truth.

By Erin Anderson

I first heard of Yongey Mingyur Rinpoche when I went to a talk that he gave at Portland State University on the Science of Meditation in 2010 for extra credit in an Eastern Religions class I was taking through CCC. I was immediately impressed by his presence and humor. A while later, I came across the book at my mother-in-law's house and was like, "hey that's the guy I went to go see speak." I borrowed the book and have been permanently changed. I am part of the Portland Tergar meditation community and practice group meditation with them. I am so amazed at the reality that has unfolded before me. It is a long path but I have started walking it and am loving it every day. I love, love, love it. Read this book, it is awesome. You will not be sorry.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

This is an extremely clear presentation of the Mahamudra approach ...

By Fred Cooper

This is an extremely clear presentation of the Mahamudra approach to Buddhist meditation which also takes into account the findings of modern neuroscience and quantum physics. The teachings are very relevant to how to work with our jealousy, anger, attachment and pride as they come up in our day to day living.

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