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The Dao De Jing in the West The Zhuangzi, the Author; The Zhuangzi, the Text; The Zhuangzi, the Style of the Text; The Zhuangzi in the West; Issues in Translation; Summary; Chapter Three; The Dao? A Dao? Dao? daos? dao?; Images: Water, Women, Baby, Root, and Others; What Is the Problem?; Conventional Values: Pairs of Opposites; Being and Non-Being; Summary; Chapter Four; Illogical Statements?; Decoding; Not Acting, Not Knowing, Not Desiring; Ziran, Self-So, Natural, Spontaneous; Language; Morality; Summary; Chapter Five; War; Government, Society, and the Sage-Ruler; The Golden Age
Advice for Would-Be Sages Losing dao; Summary; Chapter Six; What Is the Problem?; Anti-Confucians; Anti-Mohists; Being Useless; Point of View; This and That; Knowing How; Knowing What; Summary; Chapter Seven; Language: Convention and Culture; This/That, True/False; Language Is OK, Up to a Point; How to Use Language; Clarity; Death; Transformation; Survival of Consciousness and an Afterlife; Immortality; Dao; Summary; Chapter Eight; Public Life; The Golden Age; What Should We Do?; Mirror; Forgetting; Mind/Heart Fasting; Perfected People; The Relationship of the Dao De Jing and the Zhuangzi
Summary Section Three: DEVELOPING DAO; Chapter Nine; The School of Zhuangzi and Followers of the Dao De Jing; The Han Feizi; The Guanzi; Huang-Lao; The Huainanzi; The Liezi; The Han Dynasty and Beyond; Summary; Chapter Ten; Organized Daoism; The Search for Immortality; Organized Groups; The Cult of Laozi; Modern Organized Daoism; The Mystical Reading; The Philosophical Reading; Modern Daoism; Dao Lite52; A Lao-Zhuang Daoist; What Is Daoism and Other Problems; Glossary of Technical Terms; Glossary of Pronunciation; Further Reading; Bibliography; Index

Sommario/riassunto

"Written by a leading authority on Chinese philosophy, Decoding Dao uniquely focuses on the core texts in Daoist philosophy, providing readers with a user-friendly introduction that unravels the complexities of these seminal volumes. Offers a detailed introduction to the core texts in Daoist philosophy, the Dao De Jing and the Zhuangzi, two of the most widely read - and most challenging - texts in China's long literary history. Covers the three main ways the texts can be read: as religious, mystical, and philosophical works. Explores their historical context, origins, authorship, and the reasons these seminal texts came into being, along with the key terms and approaches they take. Examines the core philosophical arguments made in the texts, as well as the many ways in which they have been interpreted, both in China itself and in the West. Provides readers with an unrivalled insight into the multifaceted philosophy of Daoism - and the principles underlying much of Chinese culture - informed by the very latest academic scholarship. "--
"Providing a unique focus on the core texts in Daoist philosophy, this lucid introduction to the Dao De Jing and the Zhuangzi offers students a comprehensive understanding of the principles underlying much of Chinese culture"--

