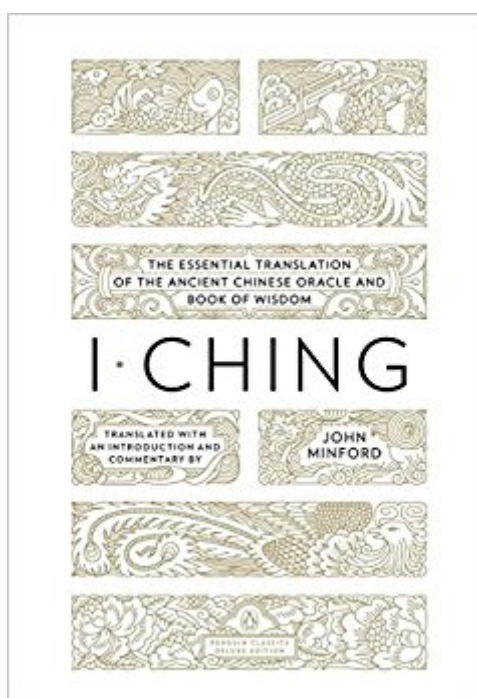


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I Ching: The Essential Translation Of The Ancient Chinese Oracle And Book Of Wisdom (Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition)



Synopsis

A landmark new translation of the ancient Chinese oracle and book of wisdom, in a stunning Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition. Pose a question, then toss three coins (or cast your yarrow stalks) to access the time-honored wisdom of the I Ching. The I Ching, or Book of Change, has been consulted through the ages, in both China and the West, for answers to fundamental questions about the world and our place in it. The oldest extant book of divination, it dates back three thousand years to ancient shamanistic practices involving the ritual preparation of the shoulder bones of oxen. From this early form of communication with the other world, it has become the Chinese spiritual book par excellence. An influence on such cultural icons as Bob Dylan, John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Philip K. Dick, and Philip Pullman, the I Ching is turned to by millions around the world for insights on spiritual growth, business, medicine, genetics, game theory, strategic thinking, and leadership, and of course for the window it opens on China. This new translation, over a decade in the making, is informed by the latest archaeological discoveries and features a gorgeously rendered codex of divination signs—the I Ching’s sixty-four Tarot-like hexagrams. It captures the majesty and mystery of this legendary work and charts an illuminating path to self-knowledge. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Winner of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (AAH) Medal for Excellence in Translation
“A tour de force of erudition.”
• The New York Review of Books
“Minford’s new translation is impressive and unique. . . . [It] artfully conveys . . . the runic quality of the original. . . . The erudition and scholarship are truly impressive. . . . The translations . . . are excellent. . . . Anyone with a special interest in the Yi or a general interest in Chinese culture will find a great deal of value in it. . . . The price is certainly unbeatable.”
• Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy
“A nicely produced book with an enthusiastic spirit and scholarly credentials . . . [It] has a freshness and clarity about it and reads well [and] has the authority of a solid translator with great scholarly experience. [It] should certainly join the small handful of books that are worthy of consulting time and time again.”
• Yijing Dao
“[This] new translation . . . explores the multi-dimensional aspects of this legendary yet largely elusive work in various ways aimed at personalising it and making it more accessible to the English-speaking world.”
• South China Morning Post
“Minford’s volume bids fair to become the definitive translation of this primary Chinese classic. An imposing example of the translator-scholar as cultural intermediary, it is both a tour de force of scholarship and a distinguished literary achievement.”
• Judges’ citation, Å AAH Medal for Excellence in Translation
“Consistently eloquent and erudite, this rendition of the I Ching will endure as a classic of the twenty-first century and beyond.”
• Anthony C. Yu, Carl Darling Buck Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in Humanities, University of Chicago
“Readers familiar with the classic Wilhelm/Baynes translation can rest assured that John Minford’s new version has surpassed it. . . . It is a work of art. But it is also extremely user-friendly, especially for general readers who wish to consult their fortunes with this book. They will find here, in Minford’s many-splendored prose, a largesse of wisdom and sheer mystical power.”
• Leo Ou-fan Lee, Sin Wai Kin Professor of Chinese Culture, Chinese University of Hong Kong
“A creative masterpiece in itself, this translation by John Minford
• one of the foremost cultural intermediaries of our day
• throws fresh light on the great Chinese classic of the occult. It is a kind of unholy resurrection, a cable that disappears

into the abyss of a darker time. In it the Bronze Age predicts to the Information Age the shadow of what is to come. — Timothy Mo, three-time finalist for the Booker Prize --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

John Minford is the translator of the acclaimed Penguin Classics edition of *The Art of War* and a professor of Chinese at the Australian National University in Canberra.

I can't recommend this book enough! Minford writes with clarity and precision, making his book an especially ideal resource for those who wish to encounter this ancient work. His comprehensive introduction sets the stage for a learned and informative analysis of the trigrams and hexagrams that are at the heart of the I Ching. What I especially like is his skill at blending his own ideas and interpretations (carefully identified) with the wisdom and insights of the many other great scholars who came before him. By adding the section called "Bronze Age Oracle" Minford also offers some valuable clues as to how the I Ching may have originally developed. I feel that this book will be a constant companion for me in the years ahead and I heartily recommend it to everyone who may be interested in Chinese history and religion.

I have been collecting Yi Jing (I Ching) texts for the past 30 years . I have well over 150 titles including numerous academic papers from the past half-century. This is easily one of the best translations ever written in the English language. Minford's erudition and natural sense of humor reveal an author of great depth and understanding. There is no single definitive translation of the I Ching, however, Minford's work surely belongs on the highest shelf amongst the greatest English translations of all time. Well done, Mr. Minford.

I looked at the Kindle version of this book and debated over instant gratification - or - having something I could hold and consult. I chose wisely. I have been away from the I Ching for a decade and wanted to begin again - a new start. This version is nearly 1000 pages long. I have only just begun - so far - I am hooked. Concise and comprehensive. Love this version so far...will update as I am further along.

Having used Wilhelm's book and several others, I trust in the scholarship and the essence that pervades each reading more than all the others. These are gentle teachings and not recreated for the present day. I use it daily and continue to be pleased.

This book is very easy to understand. I recommend it to any beginner of the I Ching. I even showed it to my friend who has no experience with the I Ching and he was able to discern meaning from the text. Very great translation that makes sense in a modern era.

Very scholarly history and background which supports the ancient Chinese text and could be viewed as a companion to the 1950 "I Ching" or "Book of Changes" by Richard Wilhelm.

Fascinating book, I'm using it with my trusty Bollingen edition of I Ching. Minford's commentaries are drawn from a variety of sources; interpretations are explained in great detail. The relationship of yin to yang and relative placement in the hexagram has been most interesting to me thus far. I recommend this book if the source and nuances of interpretations are as important to you as casting and getting the results.

Great Product! Thanks,

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