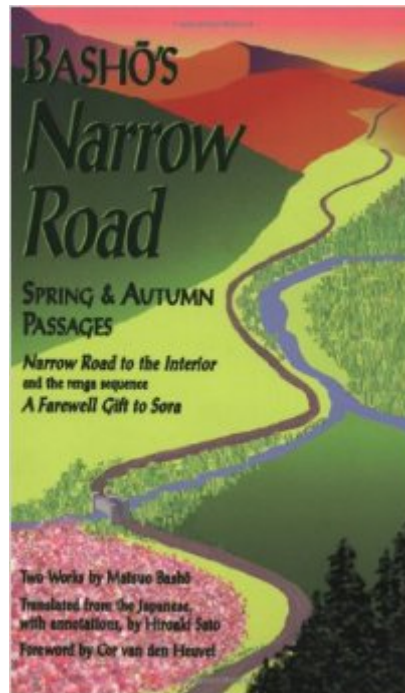


The book was found

Basho's Narrow Road: Spring And Autumn Passages (Rock Spring Collection Of Japanese Literature)



Synopsis

Matsuo Basho (1644-94) is considered Japan's greatest haiku poet. *Narrow Road to the Interior* (Oku no Hosomichi) is his masterpiece. Ostensibly a chronological account of the poet's five-month journey in 1689 into the deep country north and west of the old capital, Edo, the work is in fact artful and carefully sculpted, rich in literary and Zen allusion and filled with great insights and vital rhythms. In *Basho's Narrow Road: Spring and Autumn Passages*, poet and translator Hiroaki Sato presents the complete work in English and examines the threads of history, geography, philosophy, and literature that are woven into Basho's exposition. He details in particular the extent to which Basho relied on the community of writers with whom he traveled and joined in linked verse (renga) poetry sessions, an example of which, *A Farewell Gift to Sora*, is included in this volume. In explaining how and why Basho made the literary choices he did, Sato shows how the poet was able to transform his passing observations into words that resonate across time and culture.

Book Information

Series: Rock Spring Collection of Japanese Literature

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Stone Bridge Press (September 1, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1880656205

ISBN-13: 978-1880656204

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.5 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #571,228 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Japanese & Haiku](#) #133 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature > World Literature > Asian](#) #185 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > Asian > Japanese](#)

Customer Reviews

Reviewed by Paige Lovitt for Reader Views (9/06) Matsuo Basho (1644-94) was a famous Japanese haiku poet. In 1689, he took a 1,233 mile journey across Japan. His travels lasted five months. He was joined by his friend Kawai Sora. Basho wrote about this trip. He titled it, "Oku No Hosomichi," which translates to "Narrow Road to the Interior." This story is considered to be a masterpiece of Japanese literature. He took four years to write it and revise it. Basho started this trip when his

house burned down. He had two goals. One goal was spiritual; it involved "poetic truth." The other goal was a practical one in which he would use his travels to become well known as a poet. Sora developed stomach problems and had to end his travels with Basho. Basho wrote a short piece for him. In the second part of this book, there is a translation of "A Farewell Gift to Sora." Basho funded his travels with donations from wealthy friends and students. He felt that there were three types of poets. The first type is confused noisemakers. The second type is wealthy people who desire to write instead of gossip. The third type is poets who work hard at writing true poetry. These poets write to "soothe their heart." Basho was the third type of poet. Hiroaki Sato includes annotations to go along with the writings. This adds richness to the story and helps explain more about the culture and what was happening at the time. I read the story first with the annotations to gain understanding of what I was reading; then I went back and reread the story by itself so that I could feel how it flowed. Without the annotations, I would have enjoyed Basho's story, but I would not have understood much of what was written. Sato also includes pages of notes and commentaries.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Basho's Narrow Road: Spring and Autumn Passages (Rock Spring Collection of Japanese Literature) I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables (English Japanese bilingual, Japanese baby books): japanese children books, japanese kids books, japanese bilingual ... Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Mom (japanese kids books, japanese children stories, bilingual japanese books): japanese for kids (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Dad (English Japanese bilingual books, japanese children books): japanese kids books, japanese children stories (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) Basho's Journey: The Literary Prose Of Matsuo Basho I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables (English Japanese bilingual, Japanese children books, Japanese kids books, japanese kids language, 日本語の詩集「旅」の巻、) 旅の巻 (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) I Love My Dad 旅の巻 (Japanese Kids books, English Japanese bilingual, japanese children books bilingual, 日本語の詩集「旅」の巻, japanese children stories) (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) Childrens Japanese book: Lisa can Read. 旅の巻 Lisa can Read (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) Childrens Japanese book (Bilingual Edition) (Japanese Edition), Japanese children books, Japanese ... English picture books for children 9) I Love My Mom (Japanese Kids books, bilingual japanese books, japanese children books bilingual, 日本語の詩集「旅」の巻) 旅の巻 (English Japanese Bilingual

Collection) The Heart of Autumn Collection: Three Memorable Stories Set Under Autumn's Changing Leaves (Seasons of the Heart Book 1) Peekaboo baby. Japanese Baby Book: Children's Picture Book English-Japanese (Bilingual Edition) Bilingual Picture book in English and Japanese ... for children) (Volume 1) (Japanese Edition) My Daddy is the best!: (Bilingual Edition) English Japanese Children's Picture Book Bilingual Picture book in English and Japanese, Japanese kids book ... for children) (Volume 7) (Japanese Edition) Living Language Japanese Complete Course, Revised & Updated (40 Lessons on 3 Compact Discs * Coursebook * Japanese-English/English-Japanese Dictionary) (English and Japanese Edition) Autumn Fantasy Coloring Book - Halloween Witches, Vampires and Autumn Fairies: Coloring Book for Grownups and All Ages! Autumn Magic Grayscale Coloring Book: Autumn Fairies, Witches, and More! Narrow Road to the Interior: And Other Writings (Shambhala Classics) The Narrow Road to the Deep North I Love My Mom: English Japanese Bilingual Edition (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) 25 Complex Text Passages to Meet the Common Core: Literature and Informational Texts: Grade 5 The River of Heaven: The Haiku of Basho, Buson, Issa, and Shiki

[Dmca](#)