

“The Catch—22 of Zen”

—Taigen Dan Leighton, co-author of *Cultivating the Empty Field*

“Asked why Zen was brought from India to China, master Zhao Zhou replied, ‘The oak tree in the garden.’ This is exactly what Chadwick gives us here—no grand sweeping statements about the ‘real’ nature of Zen or Japan—just specific experience rendered with a peculiar intensity that lingers in your memory. The writing is excellent. The artistic integrity is the very finest.”—Robert Pirsig, author of *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*

“Zen isn’t it. The question is it, the doubt, the curiosity, the adventure, the what did we get ourselves into? A fine book, something, at last, to recommend in the way of Zen literature.”—Janwillem Van der Wetering, author of *A Glimpse of Nothingness*

“The results of Chadwick’s cultural collision with Japan are funny, insightful, revelatory and intriguing as hell. Don’t let the fantastic cover fool you—this is a ripe book that goes to the core. The irreverence was also a friggin’ relief.”—Peter Coyote, actor and writer

“This is Thomas Merton meets Jack Kerouac in the rural Japanese countryside. But it could also be subtitled ‘Access to Japan for normal human beings.’ Chadwick’s unpretentious prose underlines the importance of gentleness. This book will be very useful to anyone planning to visit Japan.”—John Sumser, editor of *The Whole Earth Review*

THANK YOU AND OK!

an American Zen Failure in Japan

by David Chadwick

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“As richly constructed as a good novel, it steals its way into the reader’s heart.”—Natalie Goldberg, author of *Writing Down the Bones*

“An affectionate glimpse at the worlds of Japan and Zen...Vivid, lighthearted, and unself-consciously profound.”
—KIRKUS REVIEWS

“The famous ‘punk monk’ has given a sense of Zen, a sense of Japan, and a sense of himself as seeker and wanderer which is sweet, full of good information, and...funky. Thank you and ok!”—Herbert Gold, author of *Bohemia*

“A unique unromanticized view of Japan and Japanese and American Zen. One leaves this book with a sense of our shared humanity and a confidence that we can work it out. No collection of contemporary books on Zen or Japan should be without *Thank You and OK!*”—Shin Yoshifuku—Japan’s preeminent writer and translator of books on transpersonal psychology

“David Chadwick’s *Thank You and OK!* is a breath of fresh air let in to the artsy, abstract confines of the Zen cloister. It’s breezy, immediate, a joy to read and a journey to join in that can open your eyes, touch your feelings, and by its end change at least a little how you understand the way you have come.”—Steve Tipton, co-author of *Habits of the Heart* and *The Good Society*

What is the sound of one Zen failure laughing?

“Written with a fine edge of crazy wisdom detail—this book is a treasure house of insight and humor. It’s so accessible—Chadwick really knows how to invite the reader in.”—Joan Halifax, author of *The Fruitful Darkness*

“Totally delightful—fantastic couch potato Zen. Chadwick saves you the trouble of going to Japan by making all the mistakes for you.”—Jack Kornfield, author of *Path of the Heart*

“I loved this book—touching, funny, knowing—I couldn’t put it down.”—Robert Whiting, author of *You Gotta Have Wa*

“What else is emptiness but the ultimate failure? I love this book!”—Ken Wilber, author of *No Boundary*, and *Grace and Grit*

“Hats off to Newcomer Chadwick for his engaging account of a...stay in a rural Buddhist temple and subsequent adventures in Japan.”—*Publisher’s Weekly*

“Well written with an accurate description of the Zen monastic atmosphere. Chadwick likes Japan and the Japanese and refrains from the often snide and self-congratulatory criticism that so often infects books on Japan...a splendid book.”—Phillip Yampolsky, author of *The Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch*

“Chadwick may be a ‘Zen failure,’ but his book is a rousing success, a stirring document pervaded by the wisdom and goodness of the great Zen masters...”—*Yoga Journal*

“Provides readers and writers alike with a glowing example of what an author’s first book should be...eye opening as well as entertaining.”—*The Daily Texan (University of Texas)*

“Chadwick’s rollicking (never rambling) chronicle of his adventures in Japan was well crafted, clever, inspiring and educational...abundant in humor both zany and subtle.”—*Northwest Events and Lifestyle Review (Bellingham, WA)*

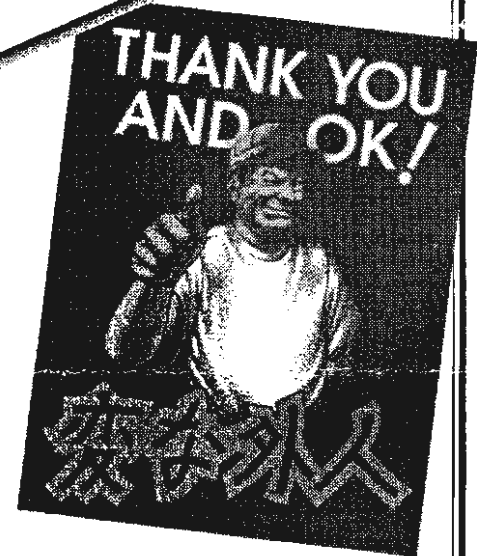
“If you want to spend a few hours with a delightful companion who lived in Japan, a Japanese monastery, and its surroundings, here is the perfect book for you...[Chadwick’s] infectious charm makes this book a pure pleasure.”—*The Asia Book Club*

“Chadwick keeps us amused throughout. Highly recommended as a memoir of classical Zen training in contemporary Japan and as pure American numbskullery.”—*The Reader’s Review*

“Reads like letters from an old and very good friend...Thank You and OK has a large heart and a clear eye and a warm and forgiving soul. The book is a delight to read. It made me laugh. I don’t know about you, but I can’t ask for anything better.”—Cary James, Pacific Sun (Marin County, California)

“Good humor and keen observations...rollicking...good entertainment...”
—*LIBRARY JOURNAL*

“Part irreverent spiritual memoir, part insightful travel book. By turns poignant, charming and insouciant...”—Alix Madrigal, *San Francisco Chronicle*



If a Zen failure cries in the forest, does it make a sound?