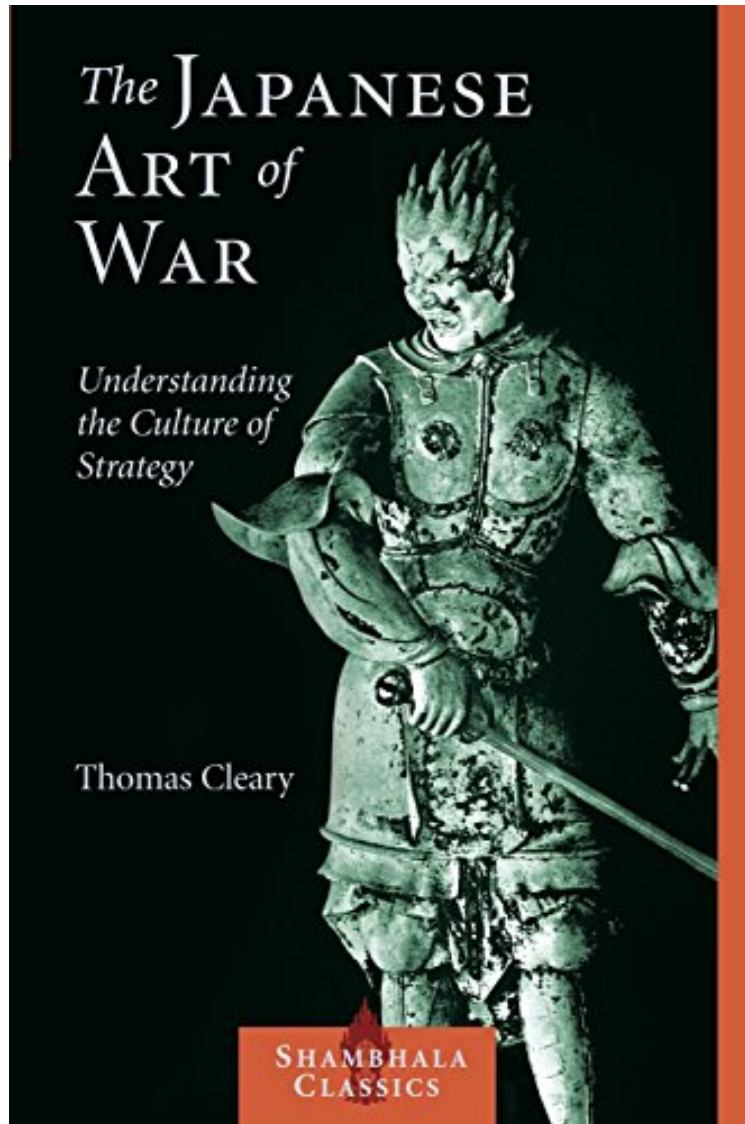


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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Japanese Art of War: Understanding the Culture of Strategy (Shambhala Classics):

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timing in a much more precise and teaching way that makes this volume more valuable to me than any of the Sun Tzu volumes. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A merger of Samurai Zen classics. By R. Mutt. Readers of samurai philosophy will appreciate Cleary's quotations, synthesis, and analysis of such classic writers as Takuan Soho, Suzuki Shosan, Yagyū Munenori, and Miyamoto Musashi. What is found here can be found elsewhere, of course, but not in such clarity of presentation and instant applicability. I would say I've probably read this book five or six times more than any work from the aforementioned writers and practitioners, but not because Cleary is more in tune that they are with the Zen and Bushido aspects of Japanese warfare. I read this book more because, when it comes down to a matter of presentation, no one does it better. Also, his succinct explanations of the 36 Stratagems is better than the handful of full length books I have read on the same topic. Well played, Cleary. Read, absorb, and apply. And you may want a spare copy as well. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I have recently become a die hard Thomas Cleary fan ... By Justin Wilson. I have recently become a die hard Thomas Cleary fan. A few short months ago I received and read my first of his books. Now I own over a dozen.

Military rule and the martial tradition of the samurai dominated Japanese culture for more than eight hundred years. According to Thomas Cleary—translator of more than thirty-five classics of Asian philosophy—the Japanese people have been so steeped in the way of the warrior that some of the manners and mentality of this outlook remain embedded in their individual and collective consciousness. Cleary shows how well-known attributes such as the reserve and mystery of formal Japanese behavior are deeply rooted in the ancient strategies of the traditional arts of war. Citing original Japanese sources that are popular among Japanese readers today, he reveals the hidden forces behind Japanese attitudes and conduct in political, business, social, and personal life.

"The Japanese Art of War should be required reading for modern-day missionaries of Western business, politics, and culture."—San Francisco Chronicle "Set aside all the slogans you have learned and all the intellectual views that stick to your flesh.' Cleary quotes Chinese Zen master Yuanwu as saying. That's what this provocative book forces us to do. It raises the art of understanding of Japan's national and corporate psychology to new—and eminently accessible—heights of clarity. Cleary's is, in fact, the clearest voice explaining East-West cultural differences that I have encountered in a long time. An amazing achievement."—Alexander Beshar, author of The Pacific Rim Almanac About the Author Thomas Cleary holds a PhD in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University and a JD from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law. He is the translator of over fifty volumes of Buddhist, Taoist, Confucian, and Islamic texts from Sanskrit, Chinese, Japanese, Pali, and Arabic.