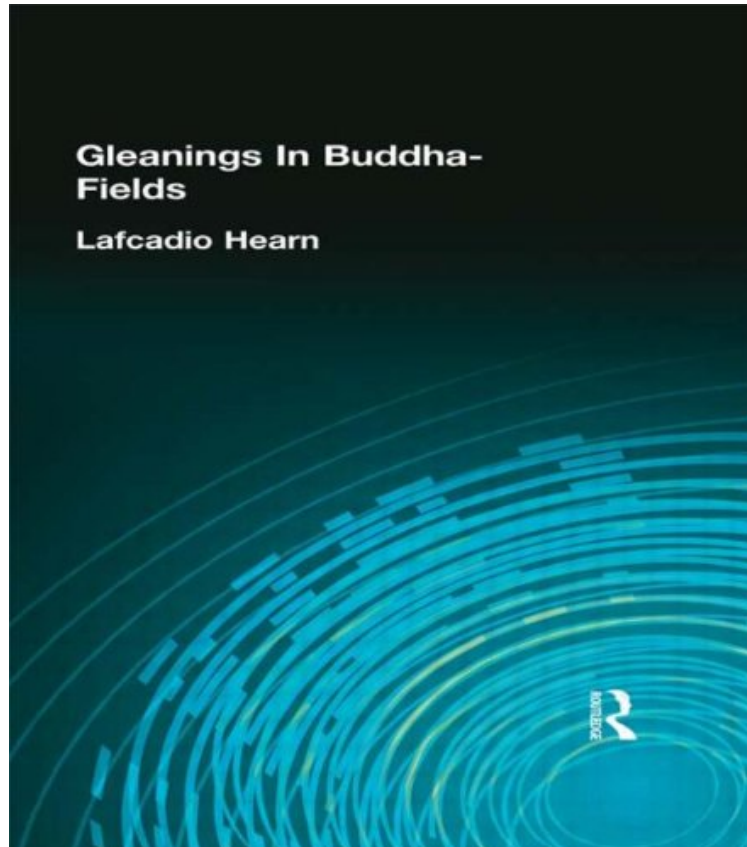


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Gleanings In Buddha-Fields (Kegan Paul Japan Library)

Lafcadio Hearn

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Lafcadio Hearn : Gleanings In Buddha-Fields (Kegan Paul Japan Library) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gleanings In Buddha-Fields (Kegan Paul Japan Library):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. POORLY FORMATEDBy David M. HeacockNot having read any other edition I can only speak to the one under this cover. I rate it two stars not because of the content--I always enjoy the works of Patrick Lafcadio Hearn--but because this edition is so poorly formatted that it is distracting. I would suggest a potential reader try any other. This is appears to be a print-on-demand book, and I hope the printer makes the changes necessary for it to be a worthy edition of Hearn's wonderful writings.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. "Things never changed since the Time of the Gods: The flowing of water, the Way of Love."By Crazy FoxAs of 1897, Lafcadio Hearn had already published several books eloquently introducing Japan to the English-reading world, capturing an unfamiliar glimpse of the country and its culture at a critical juncture during the Meiji years in the process. What was there left to glean? A rich harvest, in fact. "Gleanings in Buddha-Fields" is an elegant and evocative and yet imminently informative collection of diaphanously linked essays. The variety of Hearn's points of focus flow with a peculiar rhythm all his own--literature, travelogue, folklore, or the oxygen-thin heights of Buddhist philosophy--but the undertow remains his abiding interest in Japanese religion and spirituality in its many differing manifestations. From themes of karma and rebirth in contemporary love poetry and working songs to heady

explications of Nirvana and Emptiness, from the old cultural capital of Kyoto to the bustling commercial center of Osaka, Hearn unfolds this topic delicately in a seemingly rambling roundabout manner in rich (sometimes just a bit overly so) language crafted to entertain, inspire, and perhaps even enlighten. Many works written about Japan by Westerners in Hearn's time hold interest nowadays merely as historical fossils of cultural interaction and tend to be embarrassingly unreliable, something not true of Hearn and his work here, combining as it does a scholarly knowledge unusual in his day, a keenly discerning eye just as rare today, and most of all a genuinely deep and abiding regard for the nation he ended up adopting as his own.

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From the PublisherCOSIMO CLASSICS offers distinctive titles by the great authors and thinkers who have inspired, informed and engaged readers throughout the ages. Covering a diverse range of subjects that include Health Science, Eastern Philosophy, Mythology Sacred Texts, Philosophy Spirituality, and Business Economics these newly revitalized treasures are now available to contemporary readers. About the AuthorHearn (1850-1904) was born in Levkas, Greece, as the son of Greek and British parents. In 1869 he went to the United States and did various work, finally as a journalist. In 1890 he came to Japan and taught English in Japanese schools, and became a Japanese citizen under the name of Koizumi Yakuma. He died in Tokyo.