

# The Hanshi Reader

... words that matter !

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A periodic sampler of Hanshi Stephen Kaufman's writings.

World-renowned Author, Universally Acknowledged Distinguished Grandmaster and Educator  
A True Founding Father of American Karate

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*If You're Going to Play, Play. Don't Play!*



## **This Weeks Self-Revealization Acceptance**

### **I Am Prepared to Ascend**

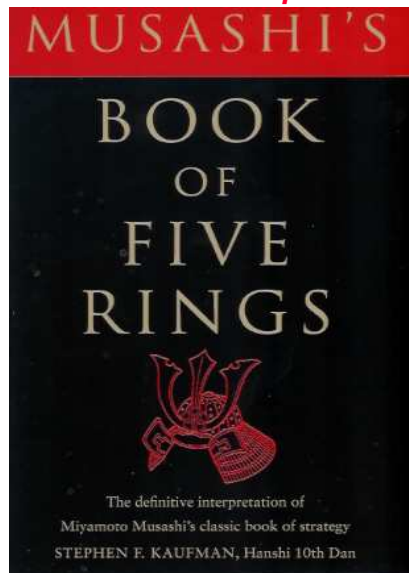
Knowing that I am in charge of my own destiny and believing that I am in control of the events in my life I now permit my higher consciousness to take me to the next step in my personal development. I enter the levels I seek to experience without delay and without confusion. I am prepared emotionally, physically, intellectually, psychically, and spiritually for this profound Nextness. By the authority of this **Self-Revealization Acceptance** I immediately activate my sub-conscious mind and express my desire to the **Spirit of the Thing Itself** in perfect form and harmony and with the use of the correct words to see manifested before me the new intelligence that is required for me to understand for my ascension. I have no fear that I will be leaving behind old ideas and restrictions that have interfered with my life to this point and gladly burn all bridges behind me. I am filled with joyous expectation by my **Divine Right to Live in Joy and Freedom** to truly know without doubt or any form of lack, loss, or limitation that what I desire to experience at this moment is now in place in the universe only awaiting my total acceptance of it as reality in my life right here and now. With clarity of thought and clarity of purpose I now acknowledge this new higher beingness reality in my aspects of:

- 1 (health)
- 2 (creativity)
- 3 (finances)
- 4 (relationships)
- 5 (spiritual enhancement)

I give total and complete thanks to the **Spirit of the Thing Itself** for this wonderful experience that I am about to enter into and look forward to ever more lavishness, lotsness and limitlessness in all of my endeavors from this point forward. Nothing and no-thing stands in my way including my own self that has yet to be accepted in perfect entirety.

# THE HANSHI READER®

A Selection from:  
**Book of Five Rings by Hanshi Stephen Kaufman**  
*The Definitive Interpretation*



ISBN 0-8048-3520-9  
Paperback 106 pgs. \$13.95

## The Meaning of the Five Parts of this Book of Strategy. Pages 12-14

The name of this book is 5 Rings. Buddhist teachings contain the five elements of the Universe. Earth, Water, Fire, Wind and No-thing-ness.

In the **Book of the Earth** the strategy of my school is explained. You are being told the reasons for my writings as well as their structure. You must not depend on understanding your art by only studying the one art you are involved with. It is difficult to understand the universe if you only study one planet. One must be aware of all of the arts by becoming familiar with many of them through complete devotion to the one. Endeavor to know all things. Though you cannot do this you will be more aware of the world around you which is essential strategy if you choose to be a warrior

In the **Book of Water** I explain that water fills all shapes and eventually wears down any form of captivity. I clearly explain what my Ichi school purports as to the study of strategy. There are many Ways of understanding the simplest of things and generally it is the opposite for difficult ideas.

Study what I say with the desire to understand my Way of strategy. When you have mastered the basics of sword fighting you will be able to beat one man or many men. It would be the same if you were fighting a countless horde as long as your strength remained with you. The amount of strength you have depends upon the training and practice you have put into your art. It is important to remember that all things can only be built from the ground up and in one stage at a time. Spirit is the thing that must be concentrated upon. To know ten thousand things, know one well. It is difficult to understand these ideas broadly through the use of words. The realities are mostly intuitive. The proper attitude of spirit must be constantly studied. The Water book explains the specifics and particulars of my Ichi school.

The **Book of Fire** is about fighting. When a man fights in real combat his spirit becomes fierce. There is a time for the spirit to be large and there is a time for the spirit to be small. In order to be able to determine the possible outcomes of combat situations you must constantly maintain the attitude of

practicing diligently. You can only fight the Way you practice. By maintaining this correct attitude you always practice diligently with proper spirit to insure your ability to become that much stronger. Through practice you will properly maintain yourself at all times.

It is hard to perceive small movements in an enemy but it is easy to see large movements in many men. When studying the art of strategy it is necessary to practice day and night. I cannot stress this enough.

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You will come to realize what I am saying as the Way to strategy. Your normal life must be a life of strategy. Full combat in battle is explained in this book. Your spirit must remain unchanged as long as you study. As long as you live the warrior life.

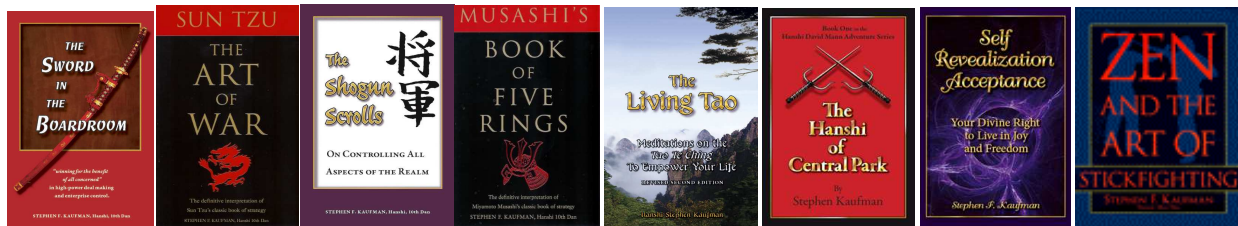
The **Book of the Wind** concerns itself with the strategies and teachings of other schools and the traditions of the past. There are obvious differences and there are differences that are not easy to ascertain. One must be careful not to study traditional methods that diverge from the true teaching of the path. I make the differences very clear and easy to understand. A slight error in judgment while at sea can throw you miles off of your course. You must constantly study your Way to insure that you do not lose your way. It is very easy to be sidetracked from the direct method. You must understand what I am talking about when the differences between the Ichi school and others are explained. It is not wrong to think that methods that only teach sword fighting are incorrect. The advantage of my Ichi school's style of two-sword fighting uses technique.

To learn technique is essential. However, strategic thinking has its own principles and they can be applied to anything that has to do with war and combat. In this way the Ichi school breaks from traditional teaching.

It is easy to understand the first four books of the ring. Introductory remarks concerning the outline of the five books should be evident upon simple review. Nothing profound is revealed in the introduction. The basic idea of the way of strategy is the attitude of being or not-being and will be expanded upon.

However, in the **Book of No-thing-ness** you will learn that the way of strategy is also the way of nature and that there is no difference except for what we ourselves conceive of or misconceive of as truth. When you understand the way of strategy you will be able to hit a man with no thought in a completely natural manner. There is a sound approach to understanding the entire subject. The book of No-thing-ness is also the shortest in the written tracts. At the same time simple and difficult to comprehend.

**All of Hanshi Kaufman's books can be ordered on line.  
To get your autographed and personalized copies go to [www.hanshi.com](http://www.hanshi.com)**



## COMING IN 2008

*Self-Revelization Acceptance Exercises*

*Art of the Zen Swordmaster*

*Zen Fairy Tales*

*Kata of Hebi-Ryu – Theory, Analysis, and Practice*

*Mastering Okinawan Sai*

*The Hanshi's Guide to Real and Practical Self-defense*

*The Hanshi in Brussels – Book 2 in the Hanshi David Mann series*

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