

The Hanshi Reader

...words that matter!

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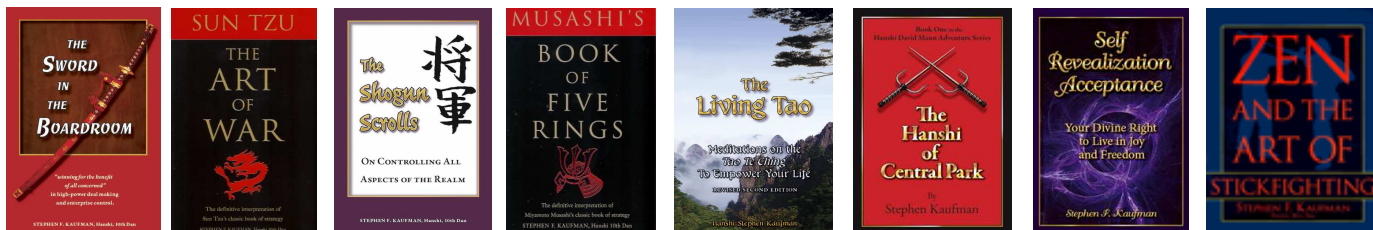
A weekly sampler of Hanshi Stephen Kaufman's writings.

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Hanshi Stephen Kaufman



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Watch For It

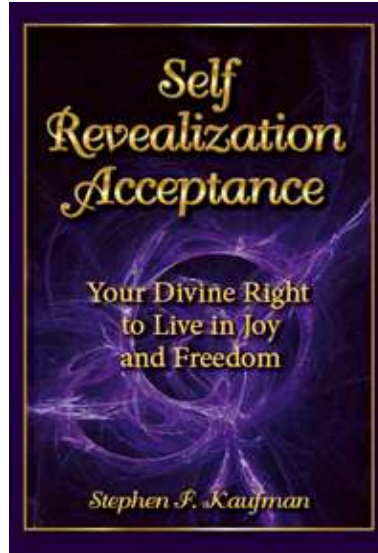
OUR LADY OF THE RINGS

**Musashi's Book of Strategy Interpreted for Women
Understanding the Beauty of Life by Being a Woman Warrior**

*****People with too much pride are usually hiding something*****

This Week's Self-Revelization Acceptance

How to use Self-Revelization Acceptance is explained on the last page of this newsletter.



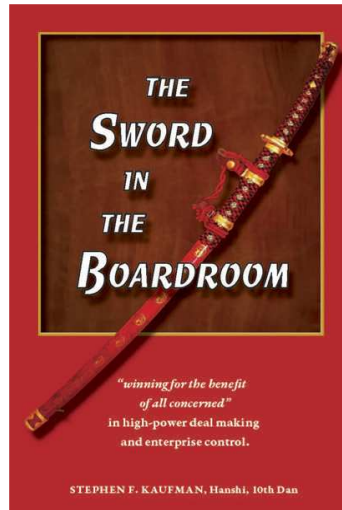
IT IS ALL ABUNDANTLY CLEAR

I accept myself as a perfect representation of the thoughts that course through my mind and the visions I have of my unfolding experiences in my life. Knowing the importance of this self-revelization I consider all aspects of my desire to manifest as I see it. When something encompasses more than the simple expression of an ideal and I do not experience that desire immediately I no longer permit myself to become confused or frustrated. Understanding the reality of the Creative Power of the universe that I am constantly thanking, I acknowledge that the intensity with which I demand of myself to will certain things into beingness may at times not have the exact words required by my **Self-Revelization Acceptance** to bring about my desired results. Giving myself the proper time and consideration for my thoughts to germinate in my consciousness, I know the **Spirit of the Thing Itself** rushes to do my bidding as I ask for direct and personal guidance to correctly put into words my true desires. As I continue to work with my expressions of good in my life I become more lucid in my thoughts and visions enabling myself to further become that which I desire to experience. Because I live my life by my **Divine Right to Live in Joy and Freedom** I can easily smile when certain things do not come to pass at which time I give myself more impetus to further understand my desires with clarity of thought and clarity of purpose. Eventually what I desire to experience has no ability to restrict or delay itself and I am delivered of my own true sense of being and self. I experience complete limitlessness, lotsness, and lavishness. I choose the things I want in my life whether it be a possession or a human relationship. I refrain from arrogance, conceit, and false pride knowing that those things are total detriments to the overall appreciation of my life and acceptance of total good. I acknowledge all that comes into my life to further enhance my greater good bounty. If by my choice I make an erroneous decision, I rescind it as quickly as I recognize its negative influence and immediately replace it with the proper causation via a more powerful **Self-Revelization Acceptance**. For the ability to do this and to maintain my own levels of empowering consciousness I give profound and total thanks to the Creative Power of the universe knowing that the more I acknowledge the source of all, the more I will experience in full joy and pleasure. And so I prosper.

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This week's excerpt:

Sword in the Boardroom



The Book of No-Thing

Musashi - It is difficult to describe something that has no apparent definition, especially through an intellectual process. When trying to explain something esoteric, it is difficult to choose the proper words to convey the correct meaning that will satisfy different people. Everything that we have told you in *The Sword in the Boardroom* is reality based on an understanding of No-Thing. No-Thing is not to be construed as a *thing* that can be physically grasped or logically thought of. If, in search of a definition, it is to be conceived of as a thing then that thing should be no-thing which by intellectual reasoning, cannot be. A definition cannot exist. If this is confusing then read it until it is clear. Different words will not make the concept any simpler. The only way you can get to a point where all things become one and that one thing ceases to exist by being the totality of itself is through constant study and practice until the separateness vanishes and *you* become the thing itself. It is called self-awareness. Or, as Buddha would say, “It is being awake.” The amount of study and practice you put into something depends upon your personal desire to attain understanding. No-Thing simply is or is not and therefore it is not possible for it to be anything—including emptiness as the completeness of All.

Sun-Tzu - People will never fully understand no-thing-ness precisely because it is without definition. Suffice to say that to experience life you must actually live. You cannot intellectualize about something if it has no meaning outside of personal experience for you, as an individual expression of totality. Essentially, if you know something, you know some “thing.” It is not the same as knowing “no-thing” which is not possible. Understanding, however, is arrived at through the intuitive process. It is this intuitive process that drives an individual to succeed at something until the individual's concept of perfection is attained. It is defined only by the individual attempting to attain that perfection and therefore becoming one with it. People will always look at things with an incorrect perception regardless of how evolved they may like to think they are until they are fully enlightened which cannot happen while you are in finite form. They do not understand something and therefore to show that they *do*, they will define it according to their needs, and their needs alone. If you happen to agree with the manner in which it is defined, you are called a follower. Because leaders do not exist without followers, the correlation between the two must be grasped. It is not incorrect to follow until you have a grasp of yourself. Then, if the relationship continues, it is based on complementarity and not dependence. There is no way for followers to know if leaders know what they are doing. Only the leader may know a specific truth, and as a follower, you have to discern that the truth may or may not be self-evidently valid. This must be based on your own perception and intuition.

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Kaufman - It is not possible, or it is, to study strategy and without an understanding of no-thing-ness. The sentence is put that way to make you think about either possibility. People only understand those things that they desire to understand, and will only understand *those* things according to their needs. To properly understand the Way of strategy you have to constantly study *every* Way until you can understand them all. By totally committing yourself to the one and having the Will of Heaven reveal its universal truth to you according to *Its* needs you must never veer from your chosen course. Still, you will never be able to veer from your chosen course even if you assume to have been in control of making the selection of your choice in the first place. You must be aware at this point, that study and practice is never to be considered a chore or as a means to an end. It must be an activity that you pursue with joy and enthusiasm simply because *that is what you do*. Study and practice is not only a mental or physical act. It is a combination of the two that precludes your definition. And it is neither.

Musashi - Study results in an accumulation of skills. This is not difficult to understand when you accept the fact that you are the only thing in the universe that matters, and that by your own choosing, you will allow or disallow other people or things to have control in your life. This is not anarchy. It is a sane way of living if you are to interact with the rest of society. Understanding the universe in relation to your discipline will eventually compel you to come to terms with your own reality. Coming to terms with your own reality is understanding no-thing-ness at which point you do not have to be at terms with it. You must never take anything for granted, and must constantly search for your meaning of life through a chosen discipline. Never put emphasis on the values of other people. In this Way you will come to understand strategy as an aspect of being.

Sun-Tzu - If you do not desire to become one with a discipline you will always pursue a non-realizable dream, if you can define one. Once a goal is chosen, enlightenment and perfection begin to open up as possibility, at least intellectually. If you do not commit yourself to what you are doing by being it, the *Spirit of the Thing Itself* will not be able to reveal its true identity through you, as you, and of you. Never be afraid of making mistakes. That is all you will ever do anyway. Strive to be unattached to anything on this earth and in this Way attain perfection by being One with All. Always remember that the work is more important than the worker is until both are the same. In time, and with devotion, you will eventually come to see things in a broader perspective but no matter how much you study you will never be able to see things as they truly are. Discrimination ever holds sway with viewpoint regardless of how hard we try to cause its cessation through study or meditation. That is why it is essential to disavow the authority of everyone not in harmony with your dreams. When you finally see things as no-thing-ness, no-thing-ness will be seen as the completeness of All.

Kaufman - There is virtue in searching for perfection in life. Always remember that there is no such thing as light without darkness. If they must both exist to be recognizable, then they both cease to exist when they are perceived. Wisdom exists, principles exist but there is no such thing as good and evil unless things are perceived as such. All things form spirit as spirit forms all things. My understanding of the Way is based only on my understanding of the universe. The entire concept of strategy in nature is detailed in this book of No-Thing-Ness. For me it is the only truth there is or can be. To repeat, the Way is based on the understanding of no-thing-ness as some thing that must be understood as no-thing. No-thing is not to be understood as a thing because then it would be based on a conception of something, which would simply not be no-thing. Think about this until it becomes very clear and then forget about it. It is not worth dwelling on. You will have attained its essence and the need to delve into its nature will be meaningless.

Sun-Tzu - A man can only understand no-thing-ness when he realizes there is nothing outside of himself. Anything external can never make us smarter, quicker, faster, richer or better. Anything external is to be considered a tool and that tool must be learned if it is to be used effectively and efficiently. All things are within the self. Everything exists if you permit it to exist. Seek for nothing outside of knowing and accepting your self. *When you understand in your own mind what does exist, you will also know those things that do not exist.* At that point it is easy to experience full and complete living. Although it may seem to be impossible to know that which does not exist, we must take this to mean that *if anything is anything, then everything is everything.* Nothing is total without complement. In the true Way, there is no such thing as a shortcut to help you understand the knowable and unknowable. The Will of Heaven, no-thing-ness, insists that seekers of perfection do not seek outside of themselves for anything that would lead to this perfection that already exists in totality.

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Musashi – Zen masters use little riddles called “koans” to confuse their students and to bring them to enlightenment. They appear to be ridiculous when first presented, but when students understand the no-thing-ness of the “koan” they have no problem in understanding what the riddle was about in the first place because there was never a riddle to begin with. It would make no sense to study Zen if you did not have the desire to enlighten yourself. If you do desire to understand what Zen truly is, then apply your life to your discipline. It is the same thing. Of course, the desire for understanding would have to be overcome completely before enlightenment came and the only way to do that would be to acknowledge your desire to rid yourself of it. You know you are enlightened when you *know* you are enlightened and not before. I can go on forever in trying to explain no-thing-ness. And that is exactly the point. However, that is exactly the wrong way to approach it. My point of view of strategy suggests that you stop all conceptual thinking. Do not try to figure out what is right or what is wrong. Nothing is or can be. When both concepts cease to exist you will have the truth of any matter. It should be obvious to you who have followed us masters’ thinking to this point that in the entire universe there is no reason to pursue any attempt at perfection. Perfection is all there is and when you understand this you will understand all strategy. When that occurs it is because you have stopped thinking about it and have accepted the fact that you are it.

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How to use a Self-Revealization Acceptance

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A Self-Revealization Acceptance is constructed for the simple purpose of bringing a specific result into a practitioner's life. Any of the ideas presented in my weekly example can be structured for your own desires. When the ideas of relationships, creativity, love, and finances are addressed you should use your own definitions to enhance the positive acceptance of an ever-growing good in your life. REMEMBER, Self-Revealization Acceptances are NOT affirmations. They are based on your positive acceptance of the good you want to experience in your life and therefore only YOUR words and YOUR authority activate the Spirit of the Thing Itself. Self-Revealization Acceptance is a philosophical approach to reality facilitation. Your reality and not the reality of someone else. Self-Revealization Acceptance absolutely is for an individual and personal manifestation REGARDLESS of what anyone outside of you think in relation to what you are accepting for. Fill the blanks with your own ideas and feel free to forward any questions or comments.

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