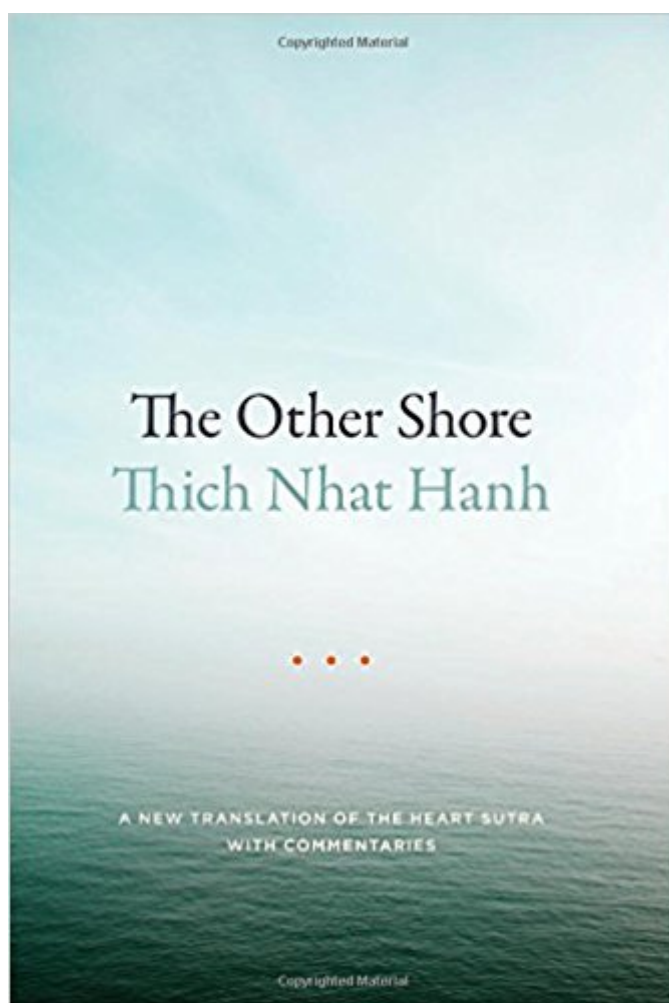


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# The Other Shore: A New Translation Of The Heart Sutra With Commentaries



## Synopsis

This new translation of the Buddha's most important, most studied teaching offers a radical new interpretation. In September, 2014 Thich Nhat Hanh completed a profound and beautiful new English translation of the Prajāpāramitā Heart Sutra, one of the most important and well-known sutras in Buddhism. The Heart Sutra is recited daily in Mahayana temples and practice centers throughout the world. This new translation came about because Thich Nhat Hanh believes that the patriarch who originally compiled the Heart Sutra was not sufficiently skillful with his use of language to capture the intention of the Buddha's teachings—and has resulted in fundamental misunderstandings of the central tenets of Buddhism for almost 2,000 years. In *The Other Shore: A New Translation of the Heart Sutra with Commentaries*, Thich Nhat Hanh provides the new translation with commentaries based on his interpretation. Revealing the Buddha's original intention and insight makes clear what it means to transcend duality and pairs of opposites, such as birth and death, and to touch the ultimate reality and the wisdom of nondiscrimination. By helping to demystify the term "emptiness," the Heart Sutra is made more accessible and understandable. Prior to the publication of *The Other Shore*, Thich Nhat Hanh's translation and commentaries of the Heart Sutra, called *The Heart of Understanding*, sold more than 120,000 copies in various editions and is one of the most beloved commentaries of this critical teaching. This new book, *The Other Shore*, supersedes all prior translations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Thich Nhat Hanh is one of the most revered Zen teachers in the world today. His best-selling books include *Be Free Where You Are* and *Peace of Mind*. He lives in Plum Village in southwest France. Nhat Hanh has been teaching the art of mindful living for more than 70 years.

This is a simply wonderful slim book

I had already read and I own the first Thich Nhat Hanh's translation and commentaries of the Heart Sutra, called *The Heart of Understanding* (to be more precise, it's the 20th anniversary revised edition). This new book *The Other Shore* is supposed to supersede all prior editions of the *The Heart of Understanding*. I am not going to make a point-by-point comparison here, but I did, and I can say that yes, this new edition brings only improvements and no regression. Some parts have been rewritten for clarity (and consistency with the new translation.), they are sometimes reordered, and largely supplemented with new content. In the old edition, the second part (except the conclusion) of the sutra was reviewed very quickly, but now new chapters have appeared. The Heart Sutra invokes many Buddhist notions in its few lines, the author now explicates them all completely. The essence of his other book *The Heart of the Buddha's Teaching* is found on those specific subjects, but more synthetically than ever (with a bold new presentation to simplify the understanding of the twelve causal links). Some have said that "this new translation of the Buddha's most important, most studied teaching offers a radical new interpretation". Fortunately, these remarks are largely exaggerated. The author has not changed his mind, and nothing contradicts the old version of the book. Quite simply, the new translation avoids the risk of some fundamental misunderstandings. In Thich Nhat Hanh's translation and commentaries of the Diamond Sutra, called *The Diamond That Cuts Through Illusion*, the author warns against the danger of attaching himself to the idea of being, or that of non-being. Even if his previous comments of the Heart Sutra already said otherwise, the new translation seeks to avoid falling into the trap of the idea of non-being. Anyway, the old translation is still proposed in the appendix. The author spent his life improving his pedagogy to explain the essential concepts of Buddhism, and all this experience is found in this book. The new readers of Thich Nhat Hanh who are interested in an in-depth analysis of the principles of Buddhism will be able to begin with this book without fear of being mistaken, and those who own the old edition would also be interested to buy it if they wanted

to read it again.

Mostly a book of recycled material from much of Thay's older works, and as he himself points out, the translation is not much different except for using a different term for "emptiness" in some stanzas to clarify its meaning. However, for the dissolution of suffering, this is basically all you need. So, I mean, in some ways it's the most important book in the world, but I'm still knocking off one star for the fact that unless this is your first TNH book, you've probably read some/a lot of this before.

Perhaps the most gripping, penetrating, and entrancing book I have ever read about the spiritual life. This book deserves great currency. It is a new addition to wisdom literature.

A caring, bold, modernisation of an ancient sutra. Well received, and important.

I love this book. He says things in ways that make difficult concepts easier to understand

What a delightful rendering of the Heart Sutra! That explores this topic deeply, but simply to help the reader grasp the essence of this life changing sutra.

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