

The Way of Aikido: Life Lessons From An American Sensei

By George Leonard



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"This book is a warmhearted handshake, a graceful and practical invitation to enter and blend with the *ahhh* of the world. It is as natural and wise an introduction to the spirit of the martial arts as you can find on paper."—Jack Kornfield, bestselling author of *A Path with Heart*

In his bestselling *Mastery*, renowned spiritual and martial arts teacher George Leonard taught hundreds of thousands of people how to use Zen philosophy to reach mastery in any field. Now, he brings together his extraordinary knowledge and experience into a book that translates the principles of aikido directly into our everyday lives.

Aikido is more philosophy and meditation than a technique or a series of purely physical maneuvers. Leonard shares the secrets of this remarkable Eastern philosophy, which is the basis for the most radical and demanding of all martial arts. Through mind-body exercises inspired by aikido yet designed for non-practitioners, he demonstrates the fundamental understanding behind aikido and shows how it can be applied to help set us on the path to composure, self-sufficiency, and spiritual centeredness.

Combining illuminating personal anecdotes with practical advice, this award-winning author describes the ways in which aikido can help turn life's unanticipated blows into gifts and transform discord into harmony, anxiety and pain into vital energy. Exhilarating, enlightening, and filled with unique wisdom, *The Way of Aikido* is an inspiring lesson in balance, confidence, and power.

"The Way of Aikido does no less than open the door to the universe and invite you through to become one with it, to become balanced, powerful, energetic, alert, and present."—Susan Trott, author of The Holy Man and Crane Spreads Wings

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Editorial Review

Review

"George Leonard is a remarkable man who embodies what he teaches: an amazing curiosity, a passionate intelligence, and the rare combination of someone who has both a broad vision and the focus mastery of details. An extraordinary book, uniting the mystical and practical, the one and the many, with new possibilities that capture the imagination. It is compassion in action."—Dean Ornish, M.D., bestselling author of Love & Survival and Dr. Ornish's Program for Reversing Heart Disease

"Leonard lays out the spiritual benefits gained by practicing the Japanese art of Aikido, which he describes as protecting both the defender and the attacker. And he presents these benefits in a way that anyone can incorporate into their lives to achieve spiritual equilibrium... Leonard breathes new life into concepts as familiar as chop-socky film clichés... Leonard urges his readers, martial artists and otherwise, to apply the principles of blending and centeredness to everyday life. Simple experiments demonstrate the power a change in mental focus can provide."—**Gregory Harris**, *BookPage*

"Blending colorful anecdotes with thoughtful philosophizing, Leonard has created the essential guide to this unique martial art... a philosophical gem."—Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat, Spirituality & Practice

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"A classic statement of aikido's philosophy and its translation to everyday activities. This book will take its place among the great and lasting works about the martial arts in relation to life."—Michael Murphy, author of *Golf in the Kingdom* and *The Future of the Body*

"A lively and intimate account of the way in which a martial art became a path of life."—Sam Keen, author of Fire in the Belly and Hymns to an Unknown God

From the Back Cover

In The Way of Aikido: Life Lessons from an American Sensei, renowned spiritual and martial arts teacher George Leonard brings together his extraordinary knowledge and experience in a book that translates the principles of aikido directly into our everyday lives.

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About the Author

GEORGE LEONARD was a writer, editor, and educator, who introduced Leonard Energy Training (LET), a practice for centering the mind, body, and spirit, to more than 50,000 people in the United States and abroad. He was the author of a number of books on human possibilities and social change, as well as President Emeritus of the Esalen Institute, President of the Association for Humanistic Psychology, and President of ITP International. He died in 2010.

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From reader reviews:

Raul Joyner:

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Toby Terry:

This The Way of Aikido: Life Lessons From An American Sensei are generally reliable for you who want to be described as a successful person, why. The main reason of this The Way of Aikido: Life Lessons From An American Sensei can be one of many great books you must have is definitely giving you more than just simple reading food but feed you with information that possibly will shock your before knowledge. This book is actually handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions in the e-book and printed kinds. Beside that this The Way of Aikido: Life Lessons From An American Sensei forcing you to have an enormous of experience for example rich vocabulary, giving you demo of critical thinking that we realize it useful in your day task. So, let's have it and revel in reading.

Katie Cardiel:

The reason why? Because this The Way of Aikido: Life Lessons From An American Sensei is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will jolt you with the secret it inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such remarkable way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning fully. So,

it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have got such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Edward Davidson:

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