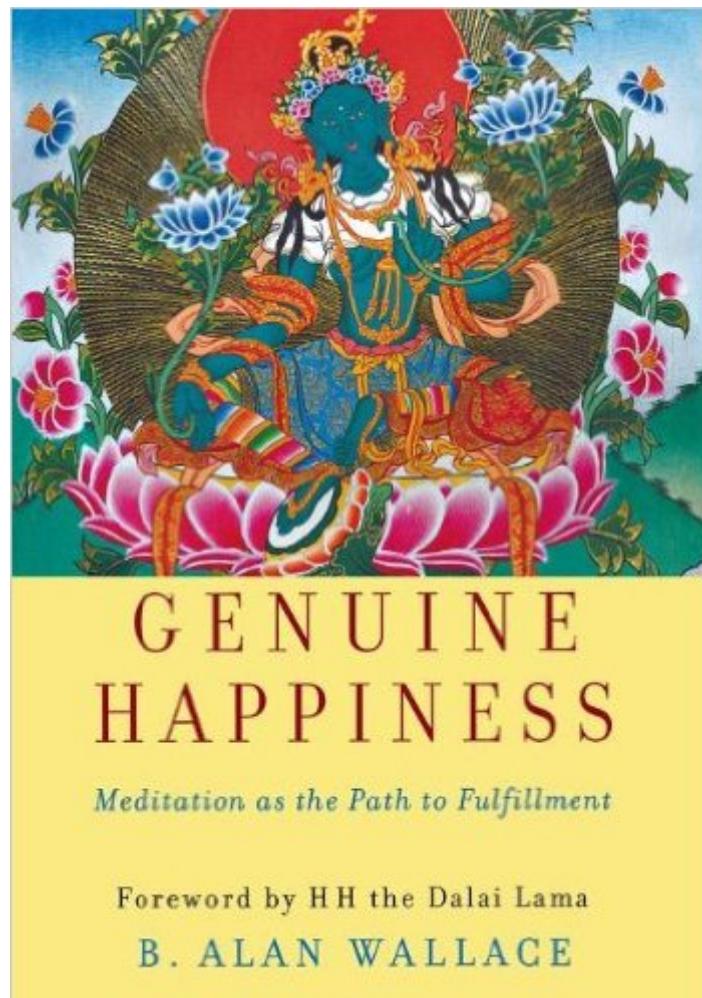


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Genuine Happiness: Meditation As The Path To Fulfillment



Synopsis

Discover your personal path to bliss""This book will give anyone interested in the spectrum of core meditative practices stemming from the Buddhist tradition but in essence universal the deepest of perspectives on what is possible for us as human beings as well as excellent guidance in the essential, time-tested attitudes and practices for actualizing our innate capacity for wisdom, compassion, and well-being, right here and right now."""â "Jon Kabat-Zinn, author of Coming to Our Senses and Full Catastrophe Living""In Genuine Happiness, Alan Wallace displays his rare talent in boiling down the complex to the clear and in guiding readers through a practical path to contentment. A gift for all moods and seasons."""â "Daniel Goleman, author of Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More Than IQ""This lucid and rich book offers brilliant, wise, and accessible teachings on the essentials of four core meditation techniques that lead one to genuine joy and happiness. Alan Wallace's years of practice and teaching shine through every page, as with ease and great humanity, he brings to the reader the possibility of liberation."""â "Joan Halifax Roshi, abbot of Upaya Zen Center""Genuine Happiness is a treasure chest of wisdom: clear, inspiring teaching jewels. It is an excellent support for any student of meditation."""â "Sharon Salzberg, author of Faith: Trusting Your Own Deepest ExperienceIn today's overstimulated world, many are realizing that happiness gained through material wealth and frivolous conquests is short-lived. To achieve long-term happiness, you must access your own bountiful resourcesâ "housed in your heart and mind. In Genuine Happiness, longtime Buddhist practitioner Alan Wallace shows you the path to bliss.Drawing on more than three decades of study under His Holiness the Dalai Lama and sixty other teachers, as well as 2,500 years of Buddhist tradition, Alan Wallace guides you step by step through five simple yet powerful meditations to help you focus your mind and open your heart to true happiness. Featuring a Foreword by the Dalai Lama, this book will help you discover that it is possible to experience genuine happiness every day.As you incorporate the meditations from Genuine Happiness into your life, you will discover that the joy you've sought has always been only a few meditative minutes away.

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Customer Reviews

This is one of the most concise books I've ever read on meditation and Buddhism's method for leading a virtuous and happy life. This is the one book that brought together everything that I had previously read in other books on Buddhism and meditation. With so many approaches to meditation, it's a relief to find an experienced practitioner who eloquently maps out the elements of Buddhist meditation in relationship to the balanced development of both wisdom and compassion. In particular, I found it very helpful the way the author divides the practice of 'samatha' or tranquility meditation and 'vipassana' techniques or insight meditation. The explanation of the Four Immeasurables (kindness, compassion, empathetic joy, and equanimity) and how they balance our practice that's useful to others as well as ourselves was also invaluable. The writing is condensed and to the point with many jewels of wisdom. I found myself underlining almost every other sentence. If you're looking for a clear outline for meditation practice and how to apply it to your daily practice on an off the meditation cushion, this is a great book to read, study, and put into practice.

I own several of Alan Wallace's books. I like them all. He presents information from a Western perspective, which I find easier to understand. Here there are specific meditation techniques presented in detail. You are encouraged to practice for a while at each stage using the suggested exercises before continuing on in the book. This book serves as a nice checklist for a complete Buddhist meditation practice, including meditative quiescence (Shamatha), (Buddhist) wisdom meditation, dream yoga and more. Alan Wallace's other book, "The Attention Revolution: Unlocking the Power of the Focused Mind" would be more appropriate if your interest is specifically in meditative quiescence (mind training).

I'm a Christian who is new to studying Buddhism. I find that the teachings and meditations enhance my religion, as well as my life. I have to admit that this book was on my shelf for a while

before I began reading it. I was a bit scared that it might be too difficult to follow for a beginner. Once I picked it up, I could not put it down. I'm a mother of a toddler and I only have 2 hours a day free to do what I want, and I chose to use up all my free time to read this book. It was really easy to read but not at all dumbed down. The meditations were also very clear and easy to follow. After reading this book I truly believe that loving everyone even your enemies is attainable in this life time. For a book to give me such inspiration and hope is absolutely amazing. This book is excellent not just for enhancing my life but for really wanting to strive for enlightenment and perfection. It's only been a week since I've read this book and just the teachings alone have already improved my life, and have caused a shift in my perspective. I think this book would be excellent for anyone in any walk of life, and any level of Buddhist knowledge. I can't believe I had a gold mine sitting in my book shelf this whole time waiting to be read. This is one of those books that you will want to share with everyone after reading it. I am in no way interested in new age books, and this does not even come close. This is the real thing, completely authentic. Alan has so much knowledge and experience on this subject, and the fact that he's a Westerner gives him an even better perspective on how to relay all his information to the modern society.

I read the first three chapters of "Genuine Happiness" as the textbook for a class in Tibetan meditation at a Buddhist monastery in Atlanta: a valuable supplement to techniques to quiet the 'monkey mind' of frenzied western consumers. But the book, like Tibetan Buddhist meditation itself, is not about a technique for relaxation, nor merely an escape from frantic behavior. It is a path to an awareness of the necessity for ethical behavior: a prerequisite for true happiness. And, ethical conduct is based not only on clarity of thought but also an awareness of what service to other sentient beings entails. As an entry to guided mediation, the book is helpful. (Although, mastering new concepts without the aid of an experienced teacher is worse than learning new software without at least a User's Guide.) Life is rarely "intuitive"... No meditation book can function as a self-contained manual. The profound value of this book is its gentle synthesis of the rational views of western science with eastern visions of esoteric reality that surpass a biological understanding of consciousness. The last few chapters define levels of enlightenment that exceed what most of us can attain - levels of mastery that transcend western explanations of conscious control of our physical reality. These forms of enlightenment redefine the "Happiness" of the book's title. If you are interested in a genuine path to happiness through service to others (with more self-awareness than one gets from the Boy Scout's oath), this book will be a wonderful companion for your journey.

There are books that you read, you enjoy, & you gradually forget; there are books that you read, you think, & you apply the underlying wisdom to your life. Allan Wallace's 'Genuine Happiness' is certainly the second type; it's actually one of the rare & precious books that I would treasure for the rest of my life. Wallace's writing is highly concise; he presents the wisdom of Buddhist meditation practice in a coherent, humane & pragmatic manner that anyone with any cultural or spiritual background can appreciate, value & apply.

I found this book extremely useful. I had been meditating already but needed more understanding and more direction regarding meditation. I read all the way through, doing the meditations described, and then re-read most of it and re-did the meditations. This book explains things in a way that a Westerner can understand and yet it's genuine in helping one to attain various meditative states. I read through or skimmed through a number of other books on meditation. This is the one that I could sink my teeth into and really use.

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