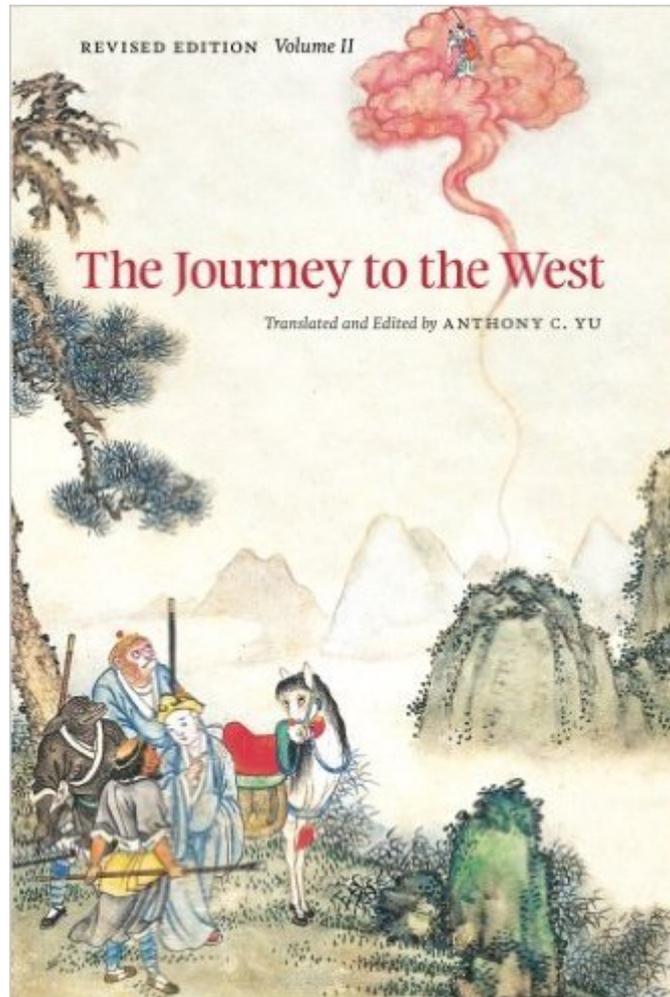


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# The Journey To The West, Revised Edition, Volume 2



## Synopsis

Anthony C. Yu's translation of *The Journey to the West*, initially published in 1983, introduced English-speaking audiences to the classic Chinese novel in its entirety for the first time. Written in the sixteenth century, *The Journey to the West* tells the story of the fourteen-year pilgrimage of the monk Xuanzang, one of China's most famous religious heroes, and his three supernatural disciples, in search of Buddhist scriptures. Throughout his journey, Xuanzang fights demons who wish to eat him, communes with spirits, and traverses a land riddled with a multitude of obstacles, both real and fantastical. An adventure rich with danger and excitement, this seminal work of the Chinese literary canon is by turns allegory, satire, and fantasy. With over a hundred chapters written in both prose and poetry, *The Journey to the West* has always been a complicated and difficult text to render in English while preserving the lyricism of its language and the content of its plot. But Yu has successfully taken on the task, and in this new edition he has made his translations even more accurate and accessible. The explanatory notes are updated and augmented, and Yu has added new material to his introduction, based on his original research as well as on the newest literary criticism and scholarship on Chinese religious traditions. He has also modernized the transliterations included in each volume, using the now-standard Hanyu Pinyin romanization system. Perhaps most important, Yu has made changes to the translation itself in order to make it as precise as possible. One of the great works of Chinese literature, *The Journey to the West* is not only invaluable to scholars of Eastern religion and literature, but, in Yu's elegant rendering, also a delight for any reader.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Yu has done an excellent job in this translation. The book is heavily footnoted with Buddhist and Dao references. It's an older translation so it uses Wade-Giles instead of modern pinyin. It's also the least abridged. If you can't read the original Chinese this comes a close second.

I have many translations of this Chinese classic, as well as the original Chinese version. If you want a real feel for this story, you cannot go wrong with this version. Yes, it is long, but so is the original. If you are looking for a very condensed, but well done version, I would also recommend the Arthur Waley translation!!

This is part two of one of the four great written masterpieces of China, beautifully translated by Professor Yu. It is, I believe, the closest English speakers will get to the original Chinese text. Occasional awkwardness of wording in the translation is unavoidable as this work has gone from its original to a greatly contrasting culture. Do not let this discourage you as you read, let it instead encourage you to learn to read the Chinese original. Seeing it via one of the many movies / TV productions available is a great help in enjoying this work. I highly recommend the CCTV production from mainland China done in both 1986 and 2000.

This is a classic series of stories that every child in China knows. The characters are very popular. I can now understand some comments made by Chinese speakers and TV news commentators that make allusions to this classic. This is one of the four volumes translated by the author. The books are heavily footnoted and suitable for serious study by English speaking persons interested in Chinese culture. The main issue I have with the series of books is that there is a lot of repetition--based on how the stories were told over the ages. A minor issue is that many footnotes refer to other volumes--but the Kindle edition does not give an immediate link to the other volumes.

A must read book for all avid readers around the world! Brought the whole series from this author's since I like the story and wanted to own the entire book collection of Journey to the West. It is one of the best book I read in my life and believed me, I read over 2,000 books in 20 yrs. After reading JW Book 1, I wanted to read the other 3 JW books since I was totally hooked into the story once I read book 1 of JW. Amazing story telling!

Although the footnotes sometimes get onerous, they really are necessary for a complete

understanding of the culture and content behind this book. I recommend this, and all the other volumes in this series by Mr. Yu, to anyone interested in the culture, history and/or Tao! Well worth reading.

This translation of Journey to the West is awesome. I'll admit that I haven't read other translations, but, from people that I know that have read the Chinese version, and also seen the Chinese series, and I have discussed the book with them, they say it is a great translation of the book.

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