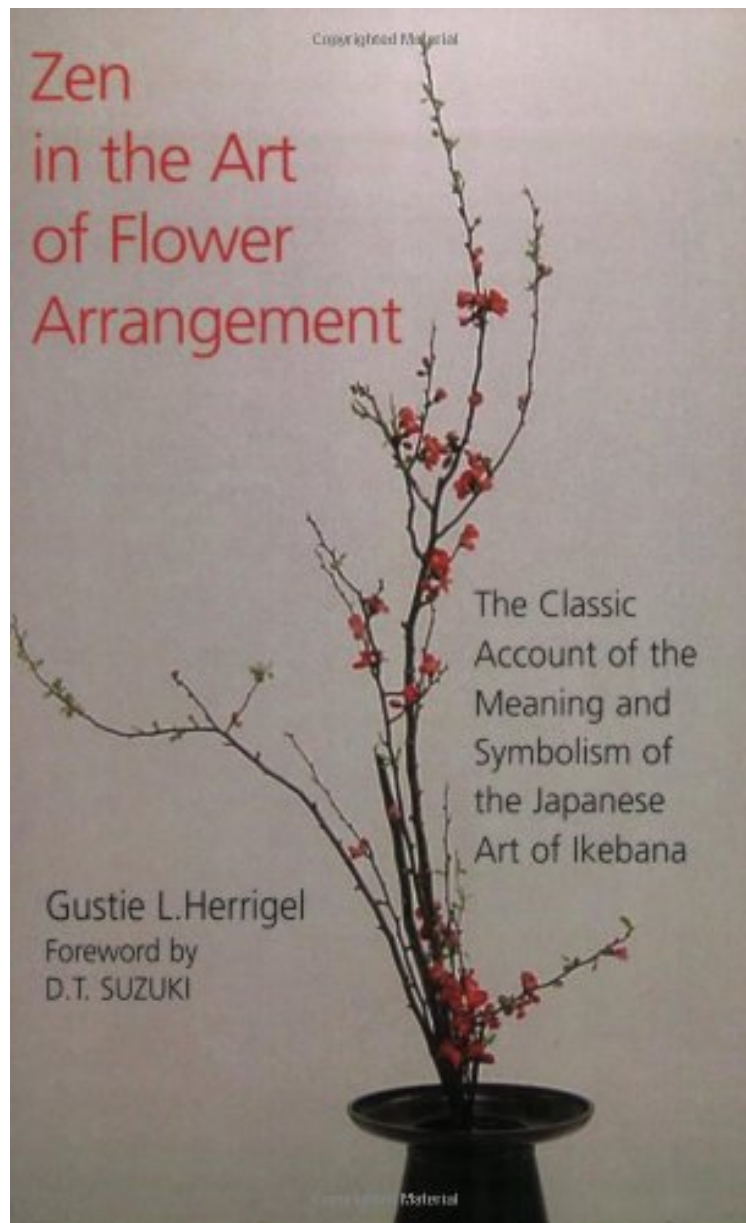


[PDF] Zen in the Art of Flower Arrangement: The Classic Account of the Meaning and Symbolism of the Japanese Art of Ikebana

## Zen in the Art of Flower Arrangement: The Classic Account of the Meaning and Symbolism of the Japanese Art of Ikebana

*Gustie L. Herrigel*

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my time, and all praised Zen in the Art of Flower Arrangement: The Classic Account of the Meaning and Symbolism of the Japanese Art of Ikebana:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. thoughtful flower arrangement book  
By Vijaya Momin  
It was interesting to know that flower arrangement also has philosophical zen meaning to it as all other Japanese things have they very nicely explained here. Along with the pictures meaning of Zen in it is very thought provoking.  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Quietly elegant book.  
By Kathy Nather Thomas  
This is a small, deftly written and intimate book. It is made very clear that Ikebana is a formal art best learned with the help of an experienced teacher or master. The actions of both student and master are done in silence to be able to understand and honor the flowers.  
33 of 33 people found the following review helpful. Not what I expected  
By M. Edwards  
Although this book is not at all what I expected (it is what it says it is: "an account of the meaning and symbolism of Ikebana" which I somehow missed before I ordered the book), it is well written and offers excellent information. If you want a greater understanding of the art form, then this is an excellent book. If you're hoping for illustrations to go along with that understanding, then this is not it.

Japanese masters have developed the techniques of ikebana over centuries and, while many different styles have evolved, they all share the same fundamental principles. The art embodies aesthetic considerations, knowledge of the natural forms of plants, and a profound understanding of the space around them. This book explains these principles by describing the lessons learned from master arranger Bokuyo Takeda and the underlying Zen symbolism in the art of ikebana. Readers will learn that training in ikebana is a process of achieving spiritual enlightenment and that the craft of arranging flowers is a form of meditation. These lessons provide a perfect escape from the stresses of everyday life and the incomparable satisfaction of creating beauty in the home.

About the Author  
Gustie L. Herrigel lived in Japan in the 1920s with her husband, Eugen Herrigel, who is regarded as the most acclaimed Western expert on Zen of his generation. D. T. Suzuki was a professor of Buddhist philosophy and is the author of numerous books, including *Essays in Zen Buddhism* and *An Introduction to Zen Buddhism*.