

The birds have vanished from the sky.  
Now the last cloud drains away.  
We sit together, the mountain and me,  
until only the mountain remains.

Han Shan

Han Shan. *The Collected Songs of Cold Mountain*. Translated by R. Pine, Trans. Port Townsend, WA: Copper Canyon Press, 2000.

To study the buddha way is to study the self. To study the self is to forget the self. To forget the self is to be actualized by myriad things. When actualized by myriad things, your body and mind as well as the bodies and minds of others drop away. No trace of realization remains, and this no-trace continues endlessly.

Dogen

Dogen. *Moon in a Dewdrop: Writings of Zen Master Dogen*. Translated by K. Tanahashi. New York: North Point Press, 1985.

When views of "I" and "mine" are extinguished.  
Whether with respect to the internal or external,  
The appropriator ceases.  
This having ceased, birth [samsara] ceases.

Nagarjuna

Nagarjuna. (1995). *The Fundamental Wisdom of the Middle Way: Nagarjuna's Mulamadhyamakakarika*. Translated by J. Garfield. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

Keep your heart clear and transparent  
And you'll never be bound.  
A single disturbed thought, though,  
Creates ten thousand distractions.  
Let myriad things captivate you  
And you'll go further and further astray.  
How painful to see people  
All wrapped up in themselves.

Ryokan

Ryokan. *Dewdrops on a Lotus Leaf: Zen Poems of Ryokan*. J. Stevens, trans. Boston and London: Shambhala, 2004

Theme

Not-self

The more you are empty of self and are freed from the knowledge of objects, the closer you come to God.

This is the Now of eternity...There the soul knows all things and knows them in perfection.

Meister Eckhart

Meister Eckhart. Meister Eckhart: Selected Writings. Translated by O. Davies. London: Penguin Books, 1994.

An explosive shout cracks the great empty sky.

Immediately clear self-understanding.

Swallow up buddhas and ancestors of the past.

Without following others, realize complete penetration.

Dogen

Dogen. Moon in a Dewdrop: Writings of Zen Master Dogen. Translated by K. Tanahashi. New York: North Point Press, 1985.