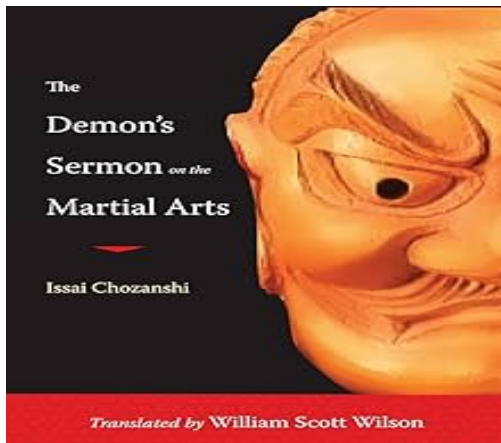


The Demons Sermon on the Martial Arts: And Other Tales By Issai Chozanshi



In keeping with his author's aims William Scott Wilson in his elegant and erudite translation embeds the sermon between a kind of overture and a postlude comprising some of the charming animal allegories to be found in another Chozanshi book the 'Inaka Soshi' (here winningly rendered as 'The Hayseed Taoist'), The centipede questions the snake the sea gull and the mayfly discuss the 'Tao ' and the toad speaks of the way of the gods. Their message is very like that of the demon get down to essentials forget yourself rely on nothing search for the heart of the truth. Japan Times The Demons Sermon on the Martial Arts: And Other Tales.