

THE BOOK OF FIVE RINGS MIYAMOTO MUSASHI

TRANSLATION BY WILLIAM SCOTT WILSON

READ BY SCOTT BRICK

"Musashi's teachings read like lessons from the latest business management gurus. Who couldn't succeed in business by applying Musashi's insights to conflicts and strategy." —*Inc.*

Setting down his thoughts on swordplay, on winning, and on spirituality, legendary swordsman Miyamoto Musashi intended this modest work as a guide for his immediate disciples and future generations of samurai. He had little idea he was penning a masterpiece that would be eagerly devoured by people in all walks of life centuries after his death.

Along with *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu, *The Book of Five Rings* has long been regarded as an invaluable treatise on the strategy of winning. Musashi's timeless advice on defeating an adversary, throwing an opponent off-guard, creating confusion, and other techniques for overpowering an assailant was addressed to the readers of earlier times on the battlefield and now serves the modern reader in the battle of life.

In this new rendering by the translator of *Hagakure* and *The Unfettered Mind*, William Scott Wilson adheres rigorously to the seventeenth-century Japanese text and clarifies points of ambiguity in earlier translations. In addition, he offers an extensive introduction and a translation of Musashi's rarely published *The Way of Walking Alone*.

Miyamoto Musashi (1584–1645) was born Shinmen Takezo in Harima Province, Japan. Renowned for his skill in swordsmanship, much of his adult life is the stuff of legend. He accepted military service with the Hosokawa clan in 1640 and three years later, he began *The Book of Five Rings*, which he completed in 1645, the year of his death.

Scott Brick has recorded nearly 500 audiobooks and has won two Audie Awards and many *AudioFile* Earphones Awards. He has been named an *AudioFile* Golden Voice and was *Publishers Weekly's* 2007 Narrator of the Year. His other audiobooks include *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu and *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad.



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