

**THE COMPLETE IDIOT'S GUIDE TO TAOISM.** By Brandon Toropov and Chad Hansen. New York: Alpha Books, 2002. Pp. 336; illustrations; appendices; index. Paper, \$16.95, ISBN 0-02-864262-7.

This book is exactly what it claims to be.

For accurate, historically sound introductions to the religious tradition which is Daoism, which take the last twenty years of scholarship into account, read *Taoism: Growth of a Religion* by Isabelle Robinet (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997); *Daoism and Chinese Culture* by Livia Kohn (Cambridge, Mass.: Three Pines Press, 2001); *Daoism: A Short Introduction* by James Miller (Oxford: Oneworld, 2003); and *Taoism: The Enduring Tradition* by Russell Kirkland (London and New York: Routledge, 2004). The most detailed, technical, and collaborative source on Daoism is the *Daoism Handbook* edited by Livia Kohn (Brill: Leiden, 2000), which contains twenty-eight articles by thirty major scholars in the field of Daoist Studies.

*Louis Komjathy*  
*Center for Daoist Studies*