

The Use of 'Woo Woo' Words by Enlightened Masters ~Shinzen Young

00:00:00 Yeah, you know, the woo-woo words, they can help and they can really get in the way.

00:00:18 And sometimes I get a little cynical and think the woo-woo words are used to join students who will keep paying their dues.

00:00:26 Well, I suspect that there are, there's a range of motivations among teachers.

00:00:35 I'll give you some inside information on teachers, okay.

00:00:39 Teachers have a range of motivations.

00:00:44 And yeah, sometimes it's to, you know, make sure the Donna stream is maintained.

00:00:53 And, but I used to be extremely cynical and rude about all of this stuff when I started.

00:01:03 Because I basically, you know, I just thought it was BS, you know, early, very early on when I was a kid and I was just studying this stuff.

00:01:13 It was cool to read about and I liked it and I liked the Asian languages.

00:01:17 But I really thought that it was all made up by the monks in order to deceive the faithful.

00:01:26 I mean, I really thought that.

00:01:30 And when I went to Asia and I heard great masters speak, I mean, I was privileged.

00:01:36 I actually like heard people like Yamada Munon, Shibayama Zenkei, maybe these names don't mean much to you.

00:01:44 But these are the gods of mid-20th century Japanese Zen.

00:01:53 And they were still alive when I was there, both of them.

00:01:57 And I could speak and understand Japanese.

00:02:01 I actually heard these people give talks.

00:02:04 And I didn't think they were making it up in order to increase the temple revenue.

00:02:17 But what I did think is they were making it up to blow people's minds.

00:02:22 To like say really weird stuff.

00:02:26 It's like, you know, it sort of grabs you.

00:02:30 So I thought it was like a Zen affectation, like an affected style of presenting things.

00:02:39 It's just basically it's like, you know, blow people's minds and get people's attention, whatever.

00:02:48 Now I hear myself saying this.

00:02:56 I mean, I realize, oh my god, I mean now I know for sure what the motivation in those cases was.

00:03:05 I can't say about the kids, the high school kids, you know, at the gate of the temple that are trying to get your shekels, okay.