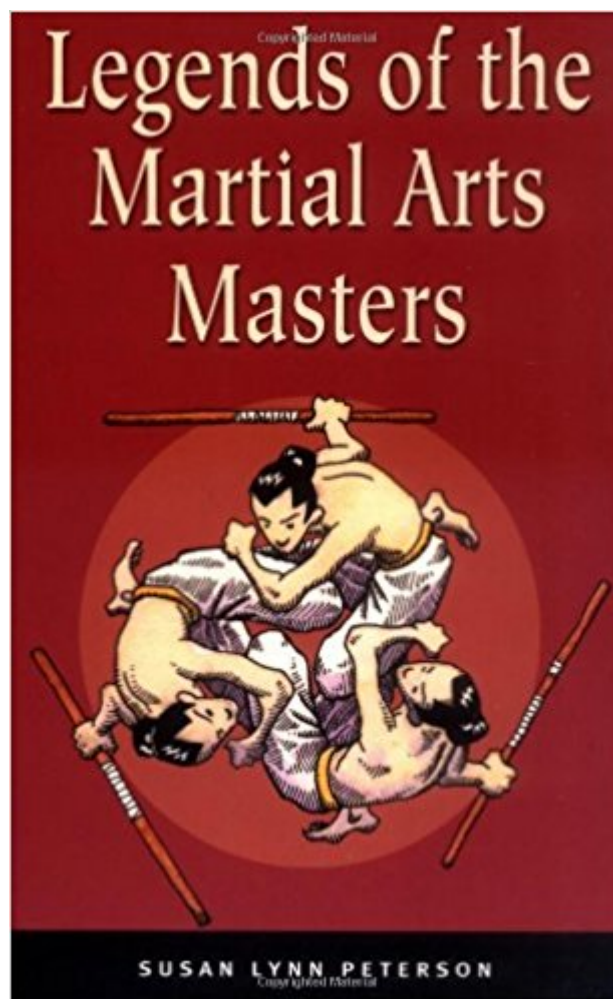


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# Legends Of The Martial Arts Masters



## Synopsis

Whether you're an inspiring black belt or just a fan of martial arts action, you'll enjoy this collection of twenty exciting stories about the great heroes of the martial arts. The stories include dramatic victories, wily strategies, and triumphs over long oddsâ "from the great Tsukahara Bokuden's cunning defeat of a troublemaking samurai to Wing Chun's brave selfâ "defense against a brutish warlord. Children can read about Robert Trias, known as the "father of American karate" and Miyamoto Musashi, known as the "greatest sword fighter in history" and the author of the bestselling Book of Five Rings. Filled with action and amazing feats of martial arts wizardry, Legends of the Martial Arts Masters will inspire readers with stories of courage, combat, and self-discovery. Stories include: The General Fights a Bull The Great Wave The Hard Way to Find a Teacher The Three Sons The Style of No Sword A Bully Changes His Ways The Ballad of Mu-lan Twelve Warriors of Burma Wing Chun The Eighteen Hands And many moreâ |

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book consists of 21 short stories from the lives of martial arts masters: some modern, some historical, and some anonymous folktales with unknown origins. The majority of the stories are about Japanese or Okinawan martial artists, but Chinese, Thai, American, and Koreans are also represented. These stories can be roughly grouped by theme (though they arenâ™t organized in that way in the book and some stories cut across more than one of the themes.) The first theme is peacefulness, non-violence, or minimization of violence. This idea is central to the stories featuring

Tsukahara Bokuden and his school of the long sword, • Yasutsune Itosu who invites an attacker for tea, Hisamori Takenouchi who is taught the folly of war by an old man, and Gichin Funakoshi who gives robbers cake. The second theme is the power of an immovable mindset. This can be seen in the story of the sumo wrestler Onami who had to overcome a stint of choking, the parable of the tea master who is challenged to a duel and is advised by a swordsmanship teacher to take up the sword with the mindset with which he takes up his tea utensils, and the tale of the unbreakable prisoner Gogen Yamaguchi. There are also stories about the ability to win by preventing the opponent from achieving this mindset. This was most famously achieved by Miyamoto Musashi (on several occasions,) but it's also seen in the story about an archer who is unable to make a shot from a perilous position even though the shot wouldn't be a hard one for him from stable ground. The third theme is the importance of the student/teacher relationship and the value of a teacher's wisdom.

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