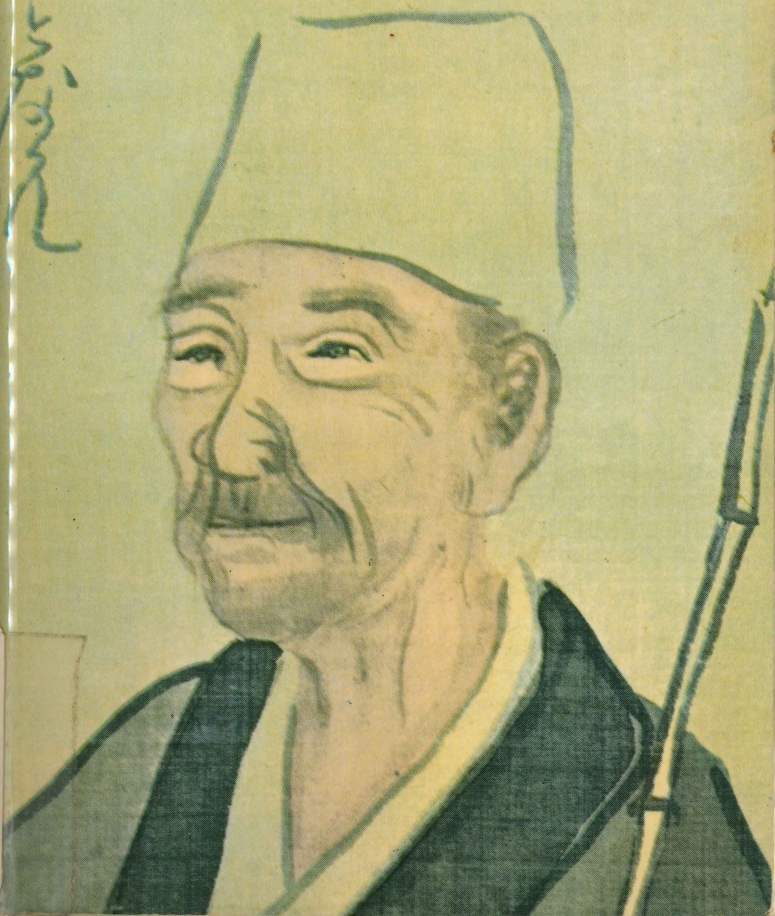


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BASHŌ

THE NARROW ROAD TO THE  
DEEP NORTH AND OTHER  
TRAVEL SKETCHES



BASHŌ

GIFT  
TM

THE NARROW ROAD TO  
THE DEEP NORTH

AND OTHER TRAVEL  
SKETCHES



*Translated from the Japanese  
with an introduction by*

NOBUYUKI YUASA

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BASHŌ

# THE NARROW ROAD TO THE DEEP NORTH AND OTHER TRAVEL SKETCHES

TRANSLATED BY NOBUYUKI YUASA

This volume contains five travel sketches written, in later life, by Matsuo Bashō (1644-94), the greatest of the Japanese *haiku* poets. Bashō's genius had already given new freedom and energy to the strict *haiku* form of seventeen syllables, elevating it to a level of miniature perfection. Zen Buddhism was a leading influence in the school of poetry he founded. His journeys through Japan are recorded in linked prose and verse, and the title piece of these sketches is a bid by the poet to discover a vision of eternity in nature and the ephemeral world about him.

*The cover shows a detail of a portrait of Bashō, in the Osaka Museum*