Sacred Texts: The Books Above My Altar

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Abstract
My sacred texts fill and overflow the shelf above my altar, looking pretty unorthodox with Paramhansa Yogananda's *Autobiography of a Yogi* sandwiched between the *New American Standard Bible* and Patrick Rothfuss' *The Slow Regard of Silent Things*. On a predominantly secular campus, I feel strange enough having an altar, let alone a shelf of sacred texts. I hope sharing about my sacred texts in a public forum will encourage others to do the same and foster a more open dialogue about what we as a community consider sacred both in text and beyond. This collection of writings that are sacred to me represents the winding path of my own spiritual exploration accumulated over years of reading, learning, and striving to leave the world brighter than it was before me. In this essay, my intention is not to demean, invalidate, or misrepresent any religious teaching or tradition, but instead express what makes a text sacred to me.

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