

Thoughts on William Sibley

I took a Japanese reading class from Bill at the University of Chicago in the late 1980s. We (six or so graduate students) read a wide range of stuff, and what I remember most is that Bill was often blunt not only about the meaning of a translation but also about its style. I liked that then (too many professors tried too hard to be your buddy), and I like it even more now that I am editing a journal and I have to endure countless soporific sentences. Thanks, Bill, for stressing the importance of clarity and grace in communication. And thanks, too, for the grace you showed in many other ways.

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