

Review by Stephen Scott Cowan on *Venerating the Root, Part One*
(share with his permission)

Sabine Wilms has given us a masterful translation of Sun Simiao's treatise on pediatrics. As a practicing pediatrician of these past 30 years who has been immersed in Chinese medicine, I had only read bits and pieces of this work and have been yearning for a solid translation. Well now we have one! What's more, by providing the Chinese text alongside the translation as well as superb footnotes that clarify some of the more multilayered Chinese terms, Sabine has given us an added gift of her linguistic scholarship that greatly expands the experience of studying the text. At each turning of the page, we get a glimpse of Sun Simiao at work treating the problems of his day. It is clear to me that his profound observations could only have come from extensive clinical experience working with children. So many medical texts (both western and eastern) are steeped in heavenly theory but lack the earthy pragmatics that clinicians need. Unless one has been in a delivery room with a blue gasping newborn or in an emergency room with a seizing child, one may not fully appreciate the power of Master Sun's perceptions. His "pearls" of pediatrics will be of value to anyone practicing Chinese medicine who is interested in working with children. This book gives me great solace in supporting my work and shows me that the path I have taken over these many years venerates the root of a long and noble tradition.

deep bows,

Stephen Scott Cowan MD