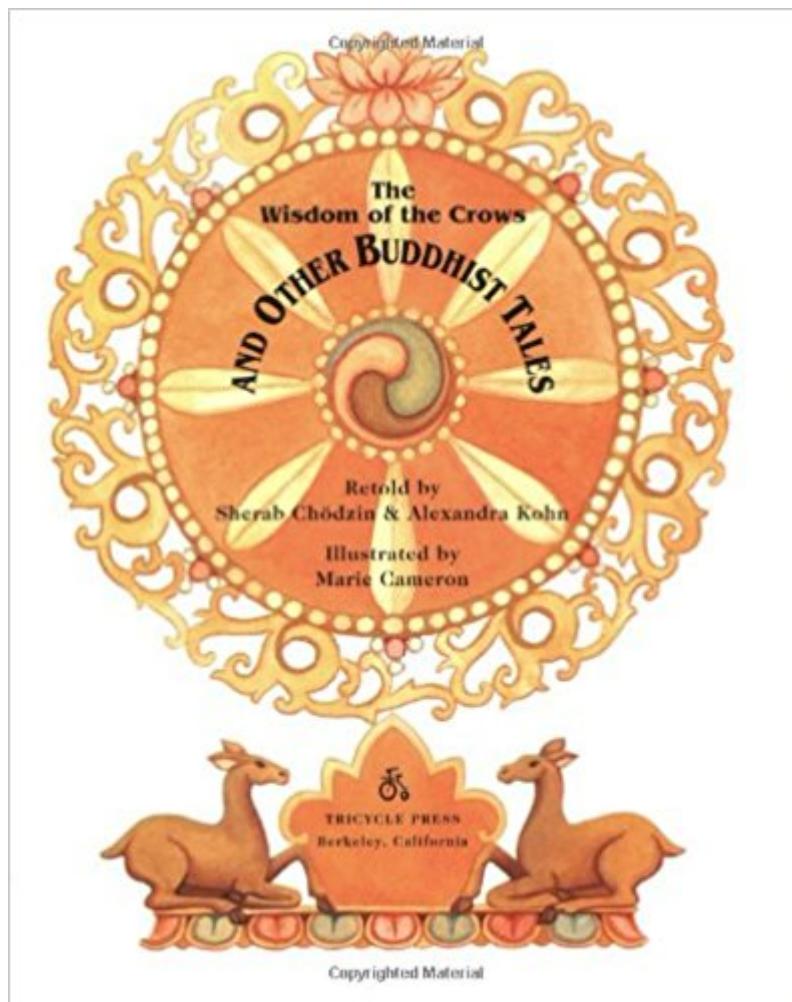


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The Wisdom Of The Crows And Other Buddhist Tales



Synopsis

Dragons, goddesses, fortune hunters, and talking animals populate these folktales and Zen parables gathered from Tibet, India, Burma, China, and Japan.

Book Information

Paperback: 80 pages

Publisher: Tricycle Press; 1st Edition edition (October 1, 1997)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.3 x 10.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #498,266 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Buddhism #25 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Eastern #4844 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

A collection of Buddhist moral tales from India, Burma, Tibet, China, and Japan, The Wisdom of the Crows and Other Buddhist Tales is as enchanting as it is exotic. Vivid illustrations from tales such as "The Foolish Boy" and "Useless Work" depict the characters in traditional dress, and the page margins of every story are decorated with distinctive, intricate designs. Some of these parables are as short as half a page, such as the Zen story of the four young monks who take a temporary vow of silence only to inadvertently violate it one after the other, with the last one declaring triumphantly, "I am the only one who hasn't talked." Others are several pages long and full of magic and adventure, like "Goodheart and the Goddess of the Forest." In this story, a boy with an excessive penchant for generosity is sent away by his father. On his travels his meddle is tested by a giant, a witch, and a conniving uncle, and his forthright sincerity carries him through each episode until he is able to live happily ever after with his bride, the goddess of the forest, as stars in the sky. All of these stories are lightheartedly retold for children and a delight to read. --Brian Bruya

Grade 7 Up?A collection of folktales from several Asian cultures?Burmese, Chinese, Indian,

Japanese, Tibetan?that illustrate values associated with Buddhist tradition, mainly Zen. A foreword discusses the founding of Buddhism and describes the life of the Buddha and the growth of the religion in Asia and more recently in the West. The stories explore the human predicament and often examine the power of the mind as a force for overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles. "Angulimala the Brigand" is a well-known canonical story of the Buddha, who also appears in "The Stone Ape." The title story expresses the sentiment that true wisdom sees beyond superficial events. Familiar folkloric motifs appear throughout?various types of tests and deceptions, reversals of fortune, sibling rivalries, predictions of the future, and solutions to puzzles. These motifs set in nonwestern locations and accompanied by enchanting full-color illustrations make this a unique and attractive offering. On occasion, especially in the foreword, the authors assume that their audience will have a rather sophisticated grasp of Buddhist culture and philosophy. The intended messages of some of these parablelike selections will be over the heads of many young people unfamiliar with the faith. Although this title may not have a wide audience, the briefer stories can be used successfully as read-alouds. ?Libby K. White, Schenectady County Public Library, NYCopyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I got this for my 4 year old daughter. I would suggest waiting a year or two longer. Some of the stories are long and overly complex and minimally illustrated. The short ones are often hard to interpret to a young child (the story of the two monks carrying the young woman across the water for example, my child is a little young to get much out of a story who's moral is something along the lines of 'obey the spirit of the rule, not the rule').

read this to our kids over and over

The book includes 13 Zen parables and folktales from Japan, India, China, Tibet and Burma. It is interesting but the length and complexity vary a lot from story to story. Smaller children (4-6 years old) may be ready for the shorter ones while this book needs more illustration to attract their attention. A good book overall.

this book is great and easy for me to explain to my child why we practice buddhism and she gets idea on how buddhism is and respect it

This is a great book for children and adults! The stories are well written and well illustrated - I bought

it for a child but kept it for myself! Buy it - the stories are very meaningful

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