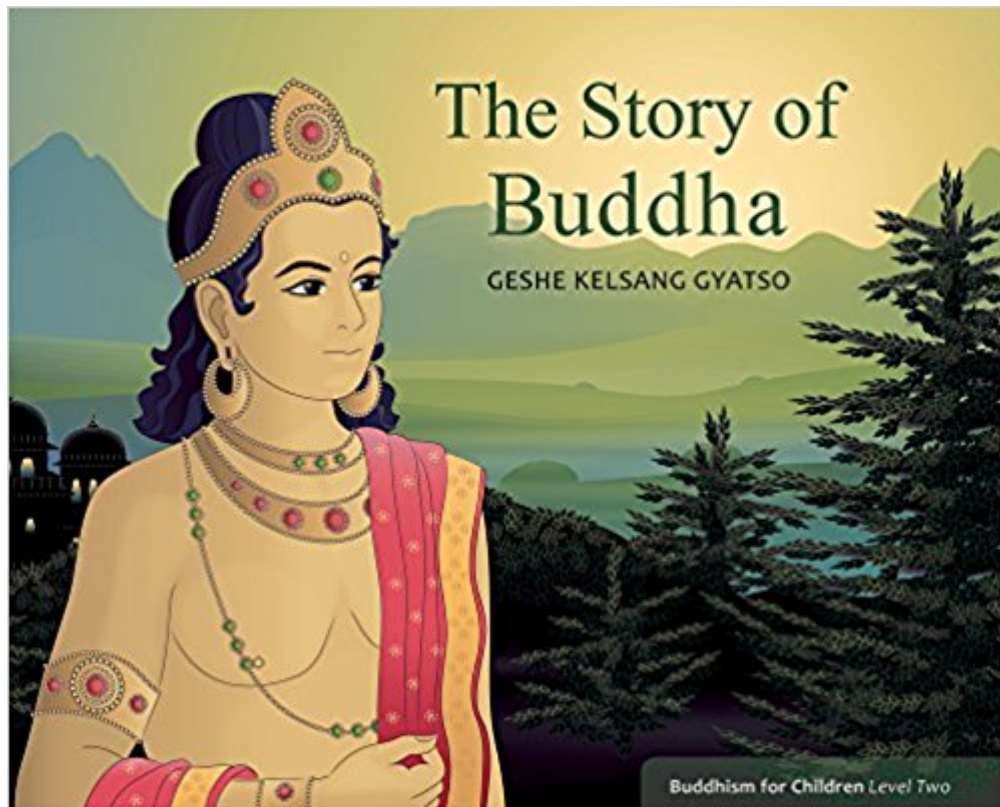




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# The Story Of Buddha: Buddhism For Children Level 2



## Synopsis

The story of Buddha's life is timeless and is as relevant today as it was 2,500 years ago when Buddha was alive. Illustrated in full color, The Story of Buddha depicts major events from Buddha's life that demonstrate how we also can develop kindness and compassion within ourselves. In this way we can eventually fulfill our own wishes as well as the wishes of all our friends. Few can fail to be inspired by this powerful story. This is the second book in the Buddhism for Children series. The Buddhism for Children series invites children to make a journey of self-discovery and self-improvement to help them realize their full potential. The series aims to show how everyone, Buddhist and non-Buddhist, can learn something from the teachings of Buddha. The Buddhism for Children series consists of 4 levels ranging from ages 4 to 10 and over.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 4

## Customer Reviews

"Geshe Kelsang Gyatso illuminates the very heart of Buddhist thought and practice." —Booklist "Geshe Kelsang Gyatso is a highly respected meditation master and scholar of the Mahayana Buddhist tradition." —Spirituality & Health

Geshe Kelsang Gyatso, or Geshe-la as he is affectionately known by his students, is a world-renowned Buddhist meditation master who has pioneered the introduction of modern

Buddhism into contemporary society. Through his personal example and his public teachings and writings he demonstrates how everyone, whether Buddhist or non-Buddhist, can learn to become wiser and more compassionate by following the advice of Buddha.

I have to say that I am really impressed. I bought the whole collection. I like the way it takes the jist of the story and maintains the meaning without confusing small children. This is something that can be shared with children in any family, whether they embrace a Buddhist ideology or not.

very nice illustrations, easy to follow story. my 5 year old enjoys this book a lot. gives a very basic concept of buddha's story.

First, I gave it two stars because the artwork was nice and the writing was at a good level for children. However, the book is contrary in spirit and detail to any Buddhist teaching I have encountered. I was looking for a way to introduce my kids to the ideas behind Buddhism, which can be quite complex. If this is also what you are looking for, do not buy this book! Having them watch Star Wars, and discussing the ideas of Yoda, the Jedi Knights, and (when they are older) how attachment and ego led Anakin to the Dark Side, would be a thousand times more Buddhist than this book. To be specific: it describes the story of a compassionate Prince Siddhartha who grew up praying for people he saw suffering from sickness, praying for people he saw suffering from old age, praying for people he saw suffering from death. All this with pictures of a young Prince Siddhartha, implying that he had been exposed to these things his whole life, and there is no mention of his having been sheltered from them and suddenly being exposed when he left the palace as an adult. As far as his leaving, there is no mention of his first choosing the life of an extreme ascetic and then finding the Middle Way-- it talks of enlightened Buddhas coming to him in a vision, leading him to ask to leave the palace & then having his request refused by his father, who kept him locked in with armed guards while trying to entice him to stay with music and dancing girls. It then tells of Siddhartha using "his miracle powers to send the guards and everyone in the palace into a deep sleep" and sneaking out with the help of a friend, then sitting under the Bodhi tree in a type of meditation called "space-like concentration". (!!!!!!!) Further, his experience during meditation is depicted as fighting off demons, giving him the name "conqueror Buddha", and then later, the gods Brahma and Indra requesting him to teach about his enlightenment... WHAT???!!! Now, I practice a wholistic Buddhism, and have read many Buddhist texts from many different traditions; I realize that Buddhism comes in different flavors, influenced by the culture and traditions in which they have

developed over thousands of years. However, even traditions as different as Zen and Tibetan Buddhism can agree on certain fundamental things, and key is the transformation of the Buddha from sheltered ignorant prince to ascetic to finally finding enlightenment through the Middle Way. Also, these weird things about demons and Hindu gods talking to the Buddha goes against the fundamental non-theistic character of Buddhism... OK, I'll stop now! I've given enough of the information I wish I'd had before buying this... hope it is helpful.

Buddha was born in Nepal not in India. This book has wrong statement.

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