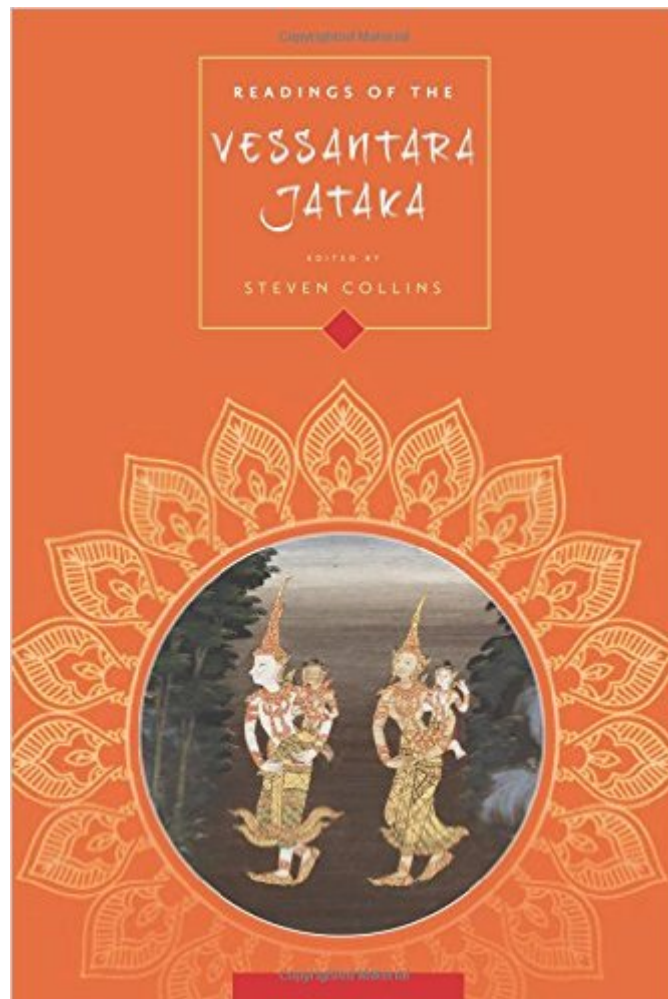


The book was found

# Readings Of The Vessantara Jataka (Columbia Readings Of Buddhist Literature)



## Synopsis

The Vessantara Jataka tells the story of Prince Vessantara, who attained the Perfection of Generosity by giving away his fortune, his children, and his wife. Vessantara was the penultimate rebirth as a human of the future Gotama Buddha, and his extreme charity has been represented and reinterpreted in texts, sermons, rituals, and art throughout South and Southeast Asia and beyond. This anthology features well-respected anthropologists, textual scholars in religious and Buddhist studies, and art historians, who engage in sophisticated readings of the text and its ethics of giving, understanding of attachment and nonattachment, depiction of the trickster, and unique performative qualities. They reveal the story to be as brilliantly layered as a Homeric epic or Shakespearean play, with aspects of tragedy, comedy, melodrama, and utopian fantasy intertwined to problematize and scrutinize Theravada Buddhism's cherished virtues.

## Book Information

Series: Columbia Readings of Buddhist Literature

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Columbia University Press; Reprint edition (March 29, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0231160399

ISBN-13: 978-0231160391

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 5.9 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #668,131 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in Â Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > Asian > Indian #178 in Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Eastern > Buddhism > History #281 in Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Eastern > Buddhism > Sacred Writings

## Customer Reviews

At last a really scholarly but readable introduction to this extraordinary story. Clear, well-researched articles outline local variations, festive links and colour â “ and demonstrate why this tale has historically been the most popular story in Southeast Asia. Southeast Asian Buddhism can only really be understood by some knowledge of this story â “ and this book brings its many contexts and variations to life. I think that those in the West who may not even have heard of this story, but who love great dramatic narratives, will find this provides really important background.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Readings of the Vessantara Jataka (Columbia Readings of Buddhist Literature) Readings of the Platform Sutra (Columbia Readings of Buddhist Literature) Buddhist Nuns, Monks, and Other Worldly Matters: Recent Papers on Monastic Buddhism in India (Studies in the Buddhist Traditions) The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Literature (Modern Asian Literature Series) Geologic History of the Columbia River Gorge, As Interpreted from the Historic Columbia River Scenic Highway (Jack Murdock Publication Series on the) AIDS Literature and Gay Identity: The Literature of Loss (Routledge Studies in Twentieth-Century Literature) Guide to Law and Literature for Teachers, Students, and Researchers: Companion Text to Literature and Legal Problem Solving : Law and Literature As Ethical Discourse The Shorter Columbia Anthology of Traditional Chinese Literature (Translations from the Asian Classics) Strunk's Source Readings in Music History: The Early Christian Period and the Latin Middle Ages (Revised Edition) (Vol. 2) (Source Readings Vol. 2) Charles Bukowski, King of the Underground: From Obscurity to Literary Icon (American Literature Readings in the Twenty-First Century) Greek Musical Writings: Volume 2, Harmonic and Acoustic Theory (Cambridge Readings in the Literature of Music) Only Connect: Readings on Children's Literature Buddhist Origami: 15 Easy-to-make Origami Symbols for Gifts and Keepsakes Hidden Spring: A Buddhist Woman Confronts Cancer How to Be Sick: A Buddhist-Inspired Guide for the Chronically Ill and Their Caregivers Qigong Empowerment: A Guide to Medical, Taoist, Buddhist and Wushu Energy Cultivation Buddhism: A Beginners Guide Book For True Self Discovery and Living a Balanced and Peaceful Life: Learn To Live In The Now and Find Peace From Within - ... - Buddha / Buddhist Books By Sam Siv 1) Daughters of Emptiness: Poems of Chinese Buddhist Nuns The Dragon Who Never Sleeps: Verses for Zen Buddhist Practice Buddhism: Buddhism for Beginners: The Complete Introduction to Buddhism: Meditation Techniques, Acceptance, & Spiritual Practice (Buddhist, Meditation, ... Mindfulness, Zen, Inner Peace, Dalai Lama)

[Dmca](#)