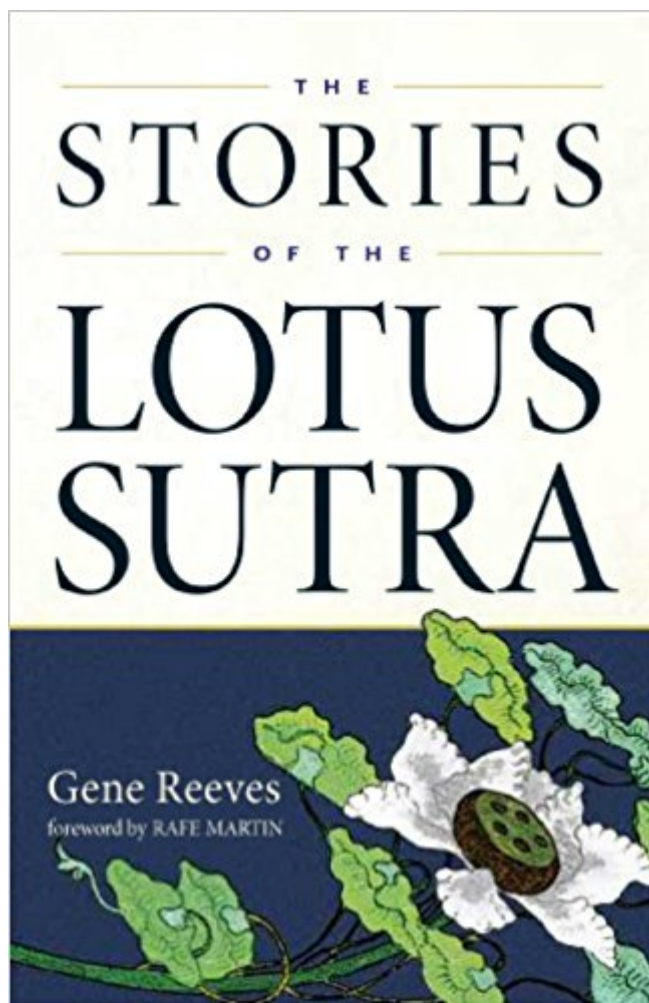


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# The Stories Of The Lotus Sutra



## Synopsis

Stories are ancient and wondrous tools with the mysterious power to transform lives. And the stories and parables of the Lotus Sutra-one of the world's great religious scriptures and most influential texts-are among the most fascinating and dramatic. In this fun, engaging, and plain-English book, Gene Reeves-the translator of Wisdom's critically acclaimed and bestselling edition of the Lotus Sutra-presents the most memorable and remarkable of the Lotus Sutra's many stories and parables, along with a distillation of his decades of reflection on them in an accessible, inspiring, and naturally illuminating way. *The Stories of the Lotus Sutra* is the perfect companion to Reeve's breathtaking translation of this scriptural masterpiece as well as a thoroughly enjoyable stand-alone volume for those who want to bring the inspiring teachings of the bodhisattva path into their daily lives.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Renmin University of China's Outstanding Book of the Year in philosophy and religion, 2012. (Renmin University of China)"Gene Reeves opens up the bloom of the Dharma Flower and frees it from its own history. His Lotus embraces all forms of Buddhist community and all manner of Buddhist paths by laying bare the living humanity of the sutra. Here I met its characters as if for the first time: heroes and fools whose stories at last seemed to be taking place in our world. Reeves lets a living breath flow through the stories so that they open their arms to us. A liberation for the sutra and for ourselves!" (Franz Metcalf, author of *What Would Buddha Do?*)"As the stories of *The Lotus*

Sutra are skillful means to help us see the Dharma, so Gene Reeves' transmission of those stories is a skillful means for conveying the narrative heart and meaning of the sutra to contemporary readers. It is a clever form of exegesis that entertains as it instructs." (The Rev. Ken Arnold, author of Circle of the Way)"In The Stories of the Lotus Sutra, Gene Reeves gives us a deceptively simple introduction to key stories and chapters from one of the most popular Mahāyāna sutras. Well written and effective." (Mark Unno, author of Buddhism and Psychotherapy Across Cultures)"What a lovely book, especially for someone like me who loves story. Profoundly transformative." (Lin Jensen, author of Bad Dog!)"Underneath all the attention given to the meditation techniques and teachings of Buddhism today lies a more fundamental level--the stories that tell us what it means to be a Buddhist, what Buddhism is. Reeves' The Stories of the Lotus Sutra opens up a wealth of stories about the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha, and does so in a way that allows us to hear them as living narratives supporting the rest of the tradition." (Richard Payne, editor of How Much is Enough?)

Gene Reeves is a Buddhist scholar and teacher, process philosopher, and theologian who has lived in Tokyo for over 23 years studying, teaching, and practicing the Buddhism of the Lotus Sutra. He is a founder of the International Buddhist Congregation with headquarters in Tokyo, a part of the much larger Rissho Kosei-kai lay Buddhist organization. He is the translator from Chinese into English of The Lotus Sutra: A Contemporary Translation of a Buddhist Classic. His most recently published book is The Stories of the Lotus Sutra. A Buddhist Kaleidoscope: Essays on the Lotus Sutra, which he edited, was published in 2002. Reeves is currently working on ""A Buddhist Natural Theology"" which attempts to relate the process philosophy of A.N. Whitehead and Charles Hartshorne with the Buddhism of the Lotus Sutra. Reeves is a regular contributor to the magazine Dharma World, and a frequent speaker on the Lotus Sutra and Chinese Buddhism in Japan, China, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and the United States. He retired in 2012 as distinguished professor at Renmin University of China in Beijing and continues to do field research on contemporary Chinese Buddhism in China and serve as an International Advisor at Rissho Kosei-kai in Japan. He has taught at the University of Tsukuba in Japan, the University of Peking in China, and at the University of Chicago and Meadville Lombard Theological School, Wilberforce University, and Tufts University in the United States. Born and raised in a small factory town in New Hampshire, Reeves graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in psychology, from Boston University with a degree in theology, and from Emory University with a PhD in philosophy. In addition to his passion for Buddhism, Reeves has been active for over 50 years in civil rights causes, working for a time

with Martin Luther King, Jr. and for Chicago Mayor Harold Washington. Reeves is married to Yayoi Reeves and has homes in Tokyo and Chicago. He has two adult daughters who live and work in the United States. Renowned storyteller Rafe Martin is the recipient of the Empire State Award, three American Library Association Notable Book awards, four Parents' Choice Gold Awards, two Anne Izard Storytellers' Choice Awards, an American Folklore Society Aesop Accolade, several American Bookseller Pick of the Lists, an International Reading Association Teachers' Choice, and many other awards of distinction. The Women's National Book Association has honored Rafe with their Lucile Micheels Pannell Award. His work has been cited in TIME Magazine, Newsweek, U.S. News and World Report, and USA TODAY. Rafe lives in Rochester, New York. Read more at [www.rafermartin.com](http://www.rafermartin.com).

What got me to read this book were the amazing stories of the Lotus Sutra. But in this book the stories are told in a brief manner, and after that the author develops his views on each story. It's not an easy read because it involves reflection and imagination from us, but in the end it's a rewarding experience.

Lends valuable insight to the metaphors throughout the sutra's text in a way that is easy for a 21st century practitioner or non-Buddhist to access. A lovely companion for anyone studying the Lotus Sutra.

Gene Reeves is a well known commentator and academic on the Lotus Sutra. This commentary is very readable. In approaching the Lotus Sutra, I would not hesitate to recommend this title as a first read.

This book helped me come to a deeper understanding of the beauty and importance of the Lotus Sutra.

This book is for anyone who is trying to figure out the meaning behind the Buddhist stories that were written thousands of years ago. Very enlightening and entertaining.

Plot? I don't think so. But I'm appreciating this translation and introduction.

Thanks !!!

It's wonderful to have the stories from the Dharma Flower (Lotus) Sutra in this form. Gene Reeves is a master storyteller and wonderful translator, bringing this well-known book alive for modern-day folks. I love it!

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