

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf is a phrase that often appears in searches related to spiritual guidance, death, and the art of mindful living. This profound text, originally authored by Sogyal Rinpoche, offers a deep exploration of Tibetan Buddhist teachings on life, death, and the transition between the two. The availability of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying in PDF format has made it accessible to a global audience seeking wisdom on how to approach dying with peace and how to live meaningfully. This article delves into the origins, themes, and significance of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying pdf while providing insights into its core philosophies and practical applications. Readers will gain an understanding of its spiritual context and how it has influenced both religious and secular audiences. Additionally, this article discusses the ethical considerations and legalities of accessing the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying pdf online. Following this introduction, the article is organized into sections covering the book's background, key teachings, impact, and accessibility.

- Background and Origin of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying
- Core Teachings and Themes in the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying
- Practical Applications of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying
- Impact and Influence of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying
- Accessing the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying PDF

Background and Origin of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying

The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying is a seminal work that introduces Tibetan Buddhist perspectives on death and the process of dying. Written by Sogyal Rinpoche and first published in 1992, the book draws extensively on ancient Tibetan Buddhist texts, including the Bardo Thodol, traditionally known in the West as the Tibetan Book of the Dead. The modern text was designed to make these esoteric teachings accessible to a contemporary audience, blending spiritual philosophy with practical advice for both the dying and those who care for them.

Author and Historical Context

Sogyal Rinpoche, a Tibetan Dzogchen lama, compiled and interpreted these teachings in a way that bridges Eastern spirituality and Western approaches to medicine, psychology, and hospice care. The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying was written during a time when Western interest in Eastern spirituality was growing, coinciding with increased focus on palliative care and the ethics of dying.

Relationship to Traditional Tibetan Texts

While inspired by the ancient Bardo Thodol, the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying expands beyond being solely a guide for the dying. It encompasses teachings on how to live fully, cultivate compassion, and prepare for death with awareness and dignity. This broader scope has contributed to its widespread acceptance and use across cultures.

Core Teachings and Themes in the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying

The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying pdf encapsulates a rich tapestry of spiritual principles and practical guidance. Central to its teachings is the understanding of death as a natural transition rather than an end, which encourages readers to approach life and death with mindfulness and courage.

Understanding the Nature of Mind and Reality

The book emphasizes the impermanence of all things and the importance of recognizing the true nature of mind beyond physical existence. It teaches that by understanding the mind's nature, individuals can overcome fear and attachment, which are major sources of suffering during dying.

Stages of Dying and the Bardo

The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying outlines the stages a person experiences at death, particularly focusing on the bardo states—the intermediate phases between death and rebirth. These teachings guide the dying to recognize signs and opportunities for liberation within these transitional states.

Compassion and Service

Compassion is a foundational theme throughout the book. It urges both the dying and caregivers to cultivate loving-kindness, seeing service to others as a path to spiritual awakening. This emphasis on compassion extends to

ethical living and facing death with dignity.

- Impermanence and non-attachment
- Mindfulness in daily life and at death
- Recognizing and working with fear and pain
- Preparation for death through spiritual practice
- Supporting others during their dying process

Practical Applications of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying

The insights in the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying pdf are not solely theoretical but offer practical tools for enhancing the quality of life and death. The book has been adopted by hospice workers, psychologists, and spiritual practitioners worldwide.

Mindfulness and Meditation Practices

The book provides detailed meditation instructions aimed at cultivating awareness and equanimity, both critical for living well and preparing for death. These practices help reduce anxiety and promote peace of mind.

Guidance for Caregivers and Families

One of the unique contributions of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying is its compassionate advice for those caring for the terminally ill. It offers methods to support dying loved ones emotionally and spiritually, emphasizing presence and understanding.

Integration into Modern Healthcare

The teachings have influenced modern hospice care approaches by integrating spiritual care into medical treatment. This holistic perspective helps patients and families navigate the dying process with greater acceptance and reduced suffering.

Impact and Influence of the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying

Since its publication, the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying has become a cornerstone text in the fields of spirituality, psychology, and end-of-life care. Its influence extends beyond Buddhist communities to a global audience interested in the mysteries of life and death.

Cross-cultural Spiritual Influence

The book has helped popularize Tibetan Buddhist concepts in the West, fostering greater appreciation for Eastern philosophies on mortality and consciousness. It has also inspired numerous workshops, retreats, and training programs focused on dying and bereavement.

Contributions to Psychology and Palliative Care

Psychologists and healthcare professionals have drawn upon the book's teachings to develop compassionate care models that address emotional and spiritual suffering. It promotes a holistic understanding of death that includes psychological preparation and acceptance.

Criticism and Controversies

While widely respected, the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying and its author have faced scrutiny and controversy in recent years, which has affected its reception in some circles. Nevertheless, the text itself remains a valuable resource for many seeking wisdom on living and dying.

Accessing the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying PDF

The demand for the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying pdf version reflects the modern desire for convenient access to spiritual texts. However, it is important to consider ethical and legal factors when obtaining digital copies.

Authorized Editions and Publishers

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Benefits of the PDF Format

The PDF format allows readers to easily navigate, search, and annotate the text, making it an excellent tool for study and reflection. Its portability enables readers to engage with the teachings anytime, anywhere, enhancing accessibility for diverse audiences.

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Frequently Asked Questions

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There is no official free PDF version of 'The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying' as it is a copyrighted book. Free versions found online may be unauthorized and potentially illegal to download.

What topics are covered in 'The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying'?

'The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying' covers Tibetan Buddhist teachings on life, death, and the afterlife. It includes guidance on meditation, coping with dying and bereavement, and understanding the nature of the mind and consciousness.

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Additional Resources

1. *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying* by Sogyal Rinpoche
This seminal work explores Tibetan Buddhist teachings on life, death, and the afterlife. It combines ancient wisdom with practical advice on how to live meaningfully and face death with courage and compassion. The book is a guide for both the dying and those who care for them, offering profound insights into the nature of mind and consciousness.
2. *Introduction to the Tibetan Book of the Dead* by Gyatrul Rinpoche
A clear and accessible commentary on the classic Tibetan text, this book explains the stages of the bardo—the intermediate state between death and rebirth. It provides practical advice on meditation and spiritual practices to prepare for death and navigate the after-death experience skillfully. The author draws on traditional teachings to make the concepts understandable for modern readers.
3. *Living and Dying in the Spirit of Tibetan Buddhism* by Tarthang Tulku
This book delves into Tibetan Buddhist perspectives on the cycle of life, death, and rebirth, emphasizing mindfulness and spiritual practice. It offers guidance for embracing the process of dying as a natural transition rather than an end. The author integrates teachings, personal stories, and meditation techniques to support readers facing mortality.
4. *The Art of Dying* by Peter Fenner

Drawing from Tibetan Buddhist philosophy, this book provides practical guidance on preparing for death with awareness and peace. It discusses how to cultivate a calm and clear mind at the end of life, which is believed to influence the rebirth process. The author also addresses common fears surrounding death and offers spiritual tools for healing.

5. *Awakening the Mind, Lightening the Heart* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama
While not solely focused on death, this book offers profound teachings on cultivating compassion, wisdom, and inner peace. These qualities are essential in the Tibetan approach to living and dying well. The Dalai Lama shares meditations and reflections that can help readers confront suffering and mortality with equanimity.

6. *Peaceful Death, Joyful Rebirth* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama
This text discusses Tibetan Buddhist views on death and rebirth with clarity and warmth. It explains rituals and mental preparations that can ease the transition from life to death. The book is accessible to lay readers and provides a compassionate approach to understanding the end of life.

7. *Mind Beyond Death: The Tibetan Book of the Dead* by Dzogchen Ponlop Rinpoche
Offering a modern interpretation, this book explores the teachings found in the Tibetan Book of the Dead and their relevance to contemporary spiritual seekers. The author emphasizes mindfulness and awareness as keys to transforming the experience of dying. It serves as both a philosophical treatise and a practical guide.

8. *Death, Intermediate State and Rebirth in Tibetan Buddhism* by Geshe Tashi Tsering
A detailed exploration of Tibetan Buddhist doctrines on death and the bardo, this book provides in-depth explanations of the after-death states and meditation practices. It is suitable for readers interested in the doctrinal and experiential aspects of Tibetan Buddhism. The author combines scholarly insight with practical advice.

9. *The Fearless Mind: 5 Essential Steps to Higher Performance* by Craig Manning
While not exclusively about Tibetan teachings on death, this book incorporates principles of mindfulness and overcoming fear, which align with the spiritual courage emphasized in Tibetan Buddhism. It offers techniques to face challenges and uncertainties in life, including the fear of death. The book bridges modern psychology with ancient wisdom for personal growth.

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The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying: A Modern Guide to Understanding Death and Life

Facing the inevitable with clarity and peace: Are you grappling with the fear of death, the uncertainty of life's journey, or the suffering of loved ones? Do you crave a deeper understanding of your own mortality and the profound meaning behind existence? You're not alone. Millions struggle with these existential questions, leaving them feeling lost, anxious, and unprepared for life's ultimate transition. This guide offers a transformative path towards acceptance, inner peace, and a richer appreciation for the present moment.

This ebook, *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying: A Modern Guide*, provides accessible insights into the ancient Tibetan wisdom found within the original text, making its profound teachings relevant to contemporary life. It unpacks complex concepts in a clear, compassionate, and practical manner, empowering you to navigate life's challenges with greater resilience and understanding.

Author: Dr. Anya Sharma (fictional author name for this example)

Contents:

Introduction: Understanding the significance of the Tibetan Book of the Dead and its relevance to modern life.

Chapter 1: Confronting Death and the Afterlife: Exploring different perspectives on death, the near-death experience, and various concepts of the afterlife.

Chapter 2: The Bardo States: A detailed exploration of the intermediate states between death and rebirth, offering practical guidance on navigating these experiences.

Chapter 3: The Nature of Consciousness: Understanding the true nature of consciousness and its implications for life and death.

Chapter 4: Mindfulness and Meditation Practices: Practical techniques for cultivating mindfulness and inner peace to cope with fear and anxiety.

Chapter 5: Compassion and Loving-Kindness: Developing compassion for oneself and others to alleviate suffering and promote healing.

Chapter 6: Preparing for Death and Dying: Practical advice and guidance for those facing their own mortality or supporting dying loved ones.

Chapter 7: Living a Meaningful Life: Integrating the teachings into daily life to create a more purposeful and fulfilling existence.

Conclusion: Reflection on the journey and integration of the learnings into one's life.

The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying: A Modern Guide to Understanding Death and Life

Introduction: Unveiling the Timeless Wisdom

The Tibetan Book of the Dead (Bardo Thodol), a seminal text of Tibetan Buddhism, often evokes images of mystical rituals and otherworldly realms. However, at its core, this ancient wisdom offers a profound and practical guide to navigating the complexities of life and death. While originally intended as a guide for those in the transitional states between lives (the "bardos"), its teachings provide invaluable insights for living a more meaningful life now. This book serves as a bridge, translating the intricate philosophical concepts into a language accessible to modern readers, irrespective of their religious or spiritual background. We will explore the core principles, stripping away the esoteric layers to reveal their practical application in navigating the challenges of everyday life, particularly the ultimate challenge: death. This introduction provides the foundation for understanding the subsequent chapters, which delve deeper into the specific teachings and their practical applications. Understanding the text's historical context and its evolution to its modern interpretation will equip the reader to engage more deeply with its transformative wisdom. We will also address common misconceptions surrounding the Tibetan Book of the Dead, establishing a clear understanding before we embark on our exploration of its rich teachings. The central theme throughout this book is not simply about preparing for death but about enriching the quality of life, and confronting the fear of death with compassionate awareness.

Chapter 1: Confronting Death and the Afterlife: Beyond Fear and Uncertainty

Fear of death is a universal human experience. This chapter confronts this fear head-on, examining the various perspectives on death from different cultures and belief systems. We'll unpack the concept of death not as an end, but as a transition. We will explore near-death experiences (NDEs) and analyze the common themes reported by individuals who have come close to death. These accounts offer intriguing insights into the nature of consciousness and the possibility of life beyond the physical body. We'll also explore the different concepts of the afterlife presented in various spiritual traditions, emphasizing that the "afterlife" is not necessarily a singular, definitive experience but rather a spectrum of possibilities interpreted through the lens of individual belief and understanding. By examining diverse perspectives, we aim to dismantle the fear surrounding the unknown and replace it with a sense of curiosity and acceptance. We will also explore different cultural rituals and practices surrounding death and dying, highlighting how different societies have developed unique ways of dealing with this inevitable aspect of human existence. Finally, this chapter provides practical strategies for processing grief and loss, offering tools for emotional healing and personal growth in the face of death.

Chapter 2: The Bardo States: Navigating the Transitional Realms

The Bardo states, as described in the Tibetan Book of the Dead, refer to the intermediate periods

between death and rebirth. These are not necessarily linear stages but rather states of consciousness that can be experienced in various ways. This chapter delves into the different Bardo states, exploring the vivid imagery and experiences reported in the original text. We'll analyze the significance of these experiences within the context of Tibetan Buddhist philosophy, examining their purpose and the potential lessons they offer. This exploration will go beyond mere interpretation, however, and will translate these seemingly esoteric concepts into practical guidance on navigating these potential experiences. Through mindfulness practices and meditation techniques, we will offer tools to manage the potential anxieties and fears that could arise during such a transition, even if these "bardo" experiences are understood metaphorically, as emotional or psychological states. This chapter emphasizes the importance of mental preparation and cultivating inner peace to approach this unknown phase with clarity and serenity.

Chapter 3: The Nature of Consciousness: Beyond the Physical Body

This chapter explores the fundamental nature of consciousness, going beyond the limitations of the physical body. It delves into the philosophical discussions in Tibetan Buddhism concerning the true nature of self and explores whether consciousness persists beyond physical death. We will examine the concept of Rigpa, the primordial consciousness, and its implications for understanding our existence. We will also discuss the concept of rebirth and karma, exploring how our actions and intentions shape our future lives. This chapter aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of consciousness as an enduring force, not solely limited to the brain or physical body. We will examine the scientific and philosophical perspectives on consciousness, exploring the latest research in neuroscience and consciousness studies alongside the timeless wisdom of Tibetan Buddhism. The goal is to offer a balanced and multifaceted perspective on the question of consciousness, its continuity, and its potential beyond physical life.

Chapter 4: Mindfulness and Meditation Practices: Tools for Inner Peace

This chapter provides practical tools for cultivating mindfulness and inner peace. We will explore various meditation techniques rooted in Buddhist traditions, focusing on those most relevant to confronting death and cultivating acceptance. We'll explain step-by-step instructions for beginners, ensuring accessibility and ease of practice. These practices, even if undertaken outside the context of any specific faith, offer valuable skills for stress reduction, anxiety management, and emotional regulation. Mindfulness, in particular, can empower individuals to navigate difficult emotions associated with grief, loss, or the contemplation of mortality. We'll also discuss the benefits of regular meditation practice beyond death-related anxieties, emphasizing its role in promoting overall well-being, improving focus, and fostering emotional resilience. We'll integrate these practices with discussions from previous chapters, illustrating how mindfulness can be applied practically to address the fears and challenges associated with the bardo states and the inevitability of death.

Chapter 5: Compassion and Loving-Kindness: Cultivating Empathy and Understanding

Compassion and loving-kindness are essential qualities for navigating both life and death. This chapter explores the profound power of these virtues, emphasizing their capacity to alleviate suffering, both for oneself and others. We'll examine how cultivating compassion can help us approach death with less fear and more acceptance. Through guided meditations and practical exercises, we'll demonstrate how to develop loving-kindness towards ourselves, our loved ones, and even those who cause us pain. This chapter emphasizes the importance of fostering empathy and understanding as a path to resolving conflict and promoting harmony, leading to a more peaceful and fulfilling life, irrespective of life's challenges. The practical application of these principles extends beyond personal well-being, influencing how we approach end-of-life care and support those facing death. It encourages a shift from fear and avoidance to compassionate presence and acceptance.

Chapter 6: Preparing for Death and Dying: Practical Guidance and Support

This chapter addresses the practical aspects of preparing for death and dying, offering guidance for individuals and families facing this transition. We'll cover topics such as advance care planning, making wills, and communicating wishes to loved ones. We'll discuss different approaches to end-of-life care, including palliative care and hospice, providing practical advice on choosing the best options. Furthermore, this chapter offers support for those caring for dying loved ones, providing guidance on how to navigate the emotional and practical challenges of this experience. Practical tips for supporting grieving individuals will also be addressed, offering tools to navigate the complexities of loss and promote healing. The focus is on providing clear, actionable steps to ensure a peaceful transition for both the individual and their family, emphasizing compassionate communication and planning.

Chapter 7: Living a Meaningful Life: Integrating Wisdom into Daily Life

The final chapter emphasizes the importance of integrating the teachings of the Tibetan Book of the Dead into daily life, not just as preparation for death, but for enhancing the quality of the present moment. It suggests practical ways to incorporate mindfulness, compassion, and acceptance into our daily routines, from our relationships with loved ones to our professional endeavors. We'll explore the concept of living a life aligned with our values and purpose, emphasizing the importance of self-reflection and identifying what truly matters. This chapter helps readers translate the profound wisdom of the text into meaningful action, focusing on cultivating inner peace and joy in the present, reducing the fear of the future and regrets of the past. The emphasis is on creating a legacy of

meaning and purpose, impacting not only the individual's own life but also the lives of those around them.

Conclusion: Embracing the Journey

This book concludes by reiterating the core principles explored throughout and encourages readers to integrate these teachings into their daily lives. It's not a destination, but an ongoing journey of self-discovery and spiritual growth. The book leaves the reader with a sense of empowerment and hope, enabling them to navigate life's challenges with increased clarity, compassion, and resilience.

FAQs

1. Is this book only for Buddhists? No, the wisdom within is applicable to anyone regardless of religious belief.
2. Is the book scary? While it deals with death, it focuses on empowering readers with tools for acceptance and peace.
3. What are the practical benefits of reading this book? Reduced fear of death, improved mindfulness, increased emotional resilience.
4. Is this a literal interpretation of the Bardo Thodol? It offers a contemporary interpretation, making the ancient text accessible to a modern audience.
5. What if I don't believe in an afterlife? The book's principles on mindfulness and compassion remain valuable, even without a belief in the afterlife.
6. Can this book help me cope with grief? Yes, it offers practical strategies for processing grief and loss.
7. How much time commitment is needed to read this book? The length is designed for manageable reading, suitable for various schedules.
8. Are there any exercises or practices included? Yes, several mindfulness and meditation exercises are included throughout.
9. Is the book suitable for beginners? Yes, the language and concepts are explained clearly and accessibly.

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the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *Tibetan Book of the Dead* W. Y. Evans-Wentz, 2020-11-18 Derived from a Buddhist funerary text, this famous volume's timeless wisdom includes instructions for attaining enlightenment, preparing for the process of dying, and moving through the various stages of rebirth.

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *Living Is Dying* Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse, 2020-03-31 An insightful collection of teachings about death and dying to help face life's greatest mystery calmly and with equanimity. Lifetimes of effort go into organizing, designing, and structuring every aspect of our lives, but how many people are willing to contemplate the

inevitability of death? Although dying is an essential part of life, it is an uncomfortable topic that most people avoid. With no idea what will happen when we die and a strong desire to sidestep the conversation, we make all kinds of assumptions. *Living Is Dying* collects teachings about death and the bardos that have been passed down through a long lineage of brilliant Buddhist masters, each of whom went to great lengths to examine the process in minute detail. Renowned author and teacher Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse responds to the most common questions he's been asked about death and dying--exploring how one prepares for death, what to say to a loved one who is dying, and prayers and practices to use as a handhold when approaching the unknown territory of death. Whether you are facing death today or decades from now, preparing for it can help to allay your worst fears and help you appreciate what it means to be truly alive.

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *Preparing to Die* Andrew Holecek, 2013-07-09 We all face death, but how many of us are actually ready for it? Whether our own death or that of a loved one comes first, how prepared are we, spiritually or practically? In *Preparing to Die*, Andrew Holecek presents a wide array of resources to help the reader address this unfinished business. Part One shows how to prepare one's mind and how to help others, before, during, and after death. The author explains how spiritual preparation for death can completely transform our relationship to the end of life, dissolving our fear and helping us to feel open and receptive to letting go in the dying process. Daily meditation practices, the stages of dying and how to work with them, and after-death experiences are all detailed in ways that will be particularly helpful for those with an interest in Tibetan Buddhism and in Tibetan approaches to conscious dying. Part Two addresses the practical issues that surround death. Experts in grief, hospice, the funeral business, and the medical and legal issues of death contribute chapters to prepare the reader for every practical concern, including advance directives, green funerals, the signs of death, warnings about the funeral industry, the stages of grief, and practical care for the dying. Part Three contains heart-advice from twenty of the best-known Tibetan Buddhist masters now teaching in the West. These brief interviews provide words of solace and wisdom to guide the dying and their caregivers during this challenging time. *Preparing to Die* is for anyone interested in learning how to prepare for death from a Buddhist perspective, both spiritually and practically. It is also for those who want to learn how to help someone else who is dying, both during the time of illness and death as well as after death.

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* Karma-glin-pa, 1987

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *Luminous Emptiness* Francesca Fremantle, 2003-03-11 *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*, a best-seller for three decades, is one of the most widely read texts of Tibetan Buddhism. Over the years, it has been studied and cherished by Buddhists and non-Buddhists alike. *Luminous Emptiness* is a detailed guide to this classic work, elucidating its mysterious concepts, terms, and imagery. Fremantle relates the symbolic world of the *Tibetan Book of the Dead* to the experiences of everyday life, presenting the text not as a scripture for the dying, but as a guide for the living. According to the Buddhist view, nothing is permanent or fixed. The entire world of our experience is constantly appearing and disappearing at every moment. Using vivid and dramatic imagery, the *Tibetan Book of the Dead* presents the notion that most of us are living in a dream that will continue from lifetime to lifetime until we truly awaken by becoming enlightened. Here, Fremantle, who worked closely with Chögyam Trungpa on the 1975 translation of the *Tibetan Book of the Dead* (Shambhala), brings the expertise of a lifetime of study to rendering this intriguing classic more accessible and meaningful to the living. *Luminous Emptiness* features in-depth explanations of: • The Tibetan Buddhist notions of death and rebirth • The meaning of the five energies and the five elements in Tibetan Buddhism • The mental and physical experience of dying, according to the Tibetan Buddhist tradition

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *Dying with Confidence* Anyen, Anyen Rinpoche, 2010-09-21 Spiritual preparations for the time of death : an evolving meditation on life and death -- Spiritual practices as the time of death nears -- Medical considerations for the Buddhist practitioner -- Buddhist practitioners as caregivers -- Appendices.

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: The Tibetan Book of the Dead, as Popularly Known in the West Karma-glin-pa, 1994

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *The Tibetan Book of the Great Liberation* W. Y. Evans-Wentz, 2000-09-28 The Tibetan Book of the Great Liberation, which was unknown to the Western world until its first publication in 1954, speaks to the quintessence of the Supreme Path, or Mah=ay=ana, and fully reveals the yogic method of attaining Enlightenment. Such attainment can happen, as shown here, by means of knowing the One Mind, the cosmic All-Consciousness, without recourse to the postures, breathings, and other techniques associated with the lower yogas. The original text for this volume belongs to the Bardo Thödol series of treatises concerning various ways of achieving transcendence, a series that figures into the Tantric school of the Mah=ay=ana. Authorship of this particular volume is attributed to the legendary Padma-Sambhava, who journeyed from India to Tibet in the 8th century, as the story goes, at the invitation of a Tibetan king. Padma-Sambhava's text per se is preceded by an account of the great guru's own life and secret doctrines. It is followed by the testamentary teachings of the Guru Phadampa Sangay, which are meant to augment the thought of the other gurus discussed herein. Still more useful supplementary material will be found in the book's introductory remarks, by its editor Evans-Wentz and by the eminent psychoanalyst C. G. Jung. The former presents a 100-page General Introduction that explains several key names and notions (such as Nirv=ana, for starters) with the lucidity, ease, and sagacity that are this scholar's hallmark; the latter offers a Psychological Commentary that weighs the differences between Eastern and Western modes of thought before equating the collective unconscious with the Enlightened Mind of the Buddhist. As with the other three volumes in the late Evans-Wentz's critically acclaimed Tibetan series, all four of which are being published by Oxford in new editions, this book also features a new Foreword by Donald S. Lopez.

the tibetan book of living and dying pdf: *Living in the Face of Death* Glenn H. Mullin, 2009-01-16 Whereas Western society views death as the last taboo, the Tibetan tradition incorporates meditation on death into everyday life. Tibetan Buddhists believe that a conscious awareness of one's own impermanence allows a person to live a happy, fulfilled life. Over the centuries, the Tibetans have developed a wide-ranging literature on death, including inspirational poetry and prose, prayers, and practical works on caring for the dying. This fascinating book presents nine short Tibetan texts. Important writings by the Second, Seventh, and Thirteenth Dalai Lamas and by Karma Lingpa, author of *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*, are included. It covers topics such as meditation techniques to prepare for death, inspirational accounts of the deaths of saints and yogis, and methods for training the mind in the transference of consciousness at the time of death.

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read by Richard Gere. Yet, as acclaimed writer and scholar of Buddhism Donald Lopez writes, *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* is not really Tibetan, it is not really a book, and it is not really about death. In this compelling introduction and short history, Lopez tells the strange story of how a relatively obscure and malleable collection of Buddhist texts of uncertain origin came to be so revered—and so misunderstood—in the West. The central character in this story is Walter Evans-Wentz (1878-1965), an eccentric scholar and spiritual seeker from Trenton, New Jersey, who, despite not knowing the Tibetan language and never visiting the country, crafted and named *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*. In fact, Lopez argues, Evans-Wentz's book is much more American than Tibetan, owing a greater debt to Theosophy and Madame Blavatsky than to the lamas of the Land of Snows. Indeed, Lopez suggests that the book's perennial appeal stems not only from its origins in magical and mysterious Tibet, but also from the way Evans-Wentz translated the text into the language of a very American spirituality.

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luminosity, and life.”—Tara Brach, author of *Radical Acceptance* and *True Refuge* “In *Love with the World* is a magnificent story—moving and inspiring, profound and utterly human. It will certainly be a dharma classic.”—Jack Kornfield, author of *A Path with Heart* “This book makes me think enlightenment is possible.”—Russell Brand

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that made the original a bestseller: suffering, meaning, love, faith, and miracles. 'Despite the awesome powers of technology, many of us still do not live very well,' says Dr. Rachel Remen. 'We may need to listen to one another's stories again.' Dr. Remen, whose unique perspective on healing comes from her background as a physician, a professor of medicine, a therapist, and a long-term survivor of chronic illness, invites us to listen from the soul. This remarkable collection of true stories draws on the concept of 'kitchen table wisdom', the human tradition of shared experience that shows us life in all its power and mystery and reminds us that the things we cannot measure may be the things that ultimately sustain and enrich our lives.

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moral philosophy of Theravada, the oldest school, or the Zen training of Japan; or special themes such as the doctrine of No-self, the Mahayana emphasis on compassion or the universal law of Karma and Rebirth. But the intense self-discipline needed for true spiritual experience calls for specialization of subject and technique. In this reissue, first published in 1974, Christmas Humphreys takes us on a personal journey through Buddhism, offering insights into the many different paths, doctrines and approaches to Buddhism. This collection of twenty essays ranges from history to doctrine, and from the rise of Buddhism in the West through to the finer points of its everyday practice. It is a truly valuable piece of Western Buddhist literature and its reissue will be welcomed by scholars of Buddhism and interested laypeople alike.

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is an occupied country. This book traces the history of Tibetan statehood from ancient times to our days, describes the life of the Tibetans at the times of Feudalism and Socialism, the coercive inclusion of Tibet into People's Republic of China, the suppression of the national liberation movement, the Cultural Revolution, and subsequent reforms. Many pictures and data concerning these events are being published for the first time. The book has garnered much interest in Russia, particularly in academic and political science circles.

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Chokyi received divine inspiration to compose one of the most forthright and engaging spiritual autobiographies of the Tibetan literary tradition. Her life story is the oldest of only four Tibetan autobiographies authored by women. It is also a rare example of writing by a pre-modern Buddhist woman, and thus holds a unique place in Buddhist literature as a whole. Translator Kurtis Schaeffer prefaces the text with an illuminating study of the life and times of Orgyan Chokyi and an extended analysis of the hermitess's view of the relation between gender, suffering, and liberation. Based almost entirely on primary Tibetan documents never before translated, this fascinating book will be of interest to those studying Buddhism, gender and religion, and the culture of the Tibetan world.

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