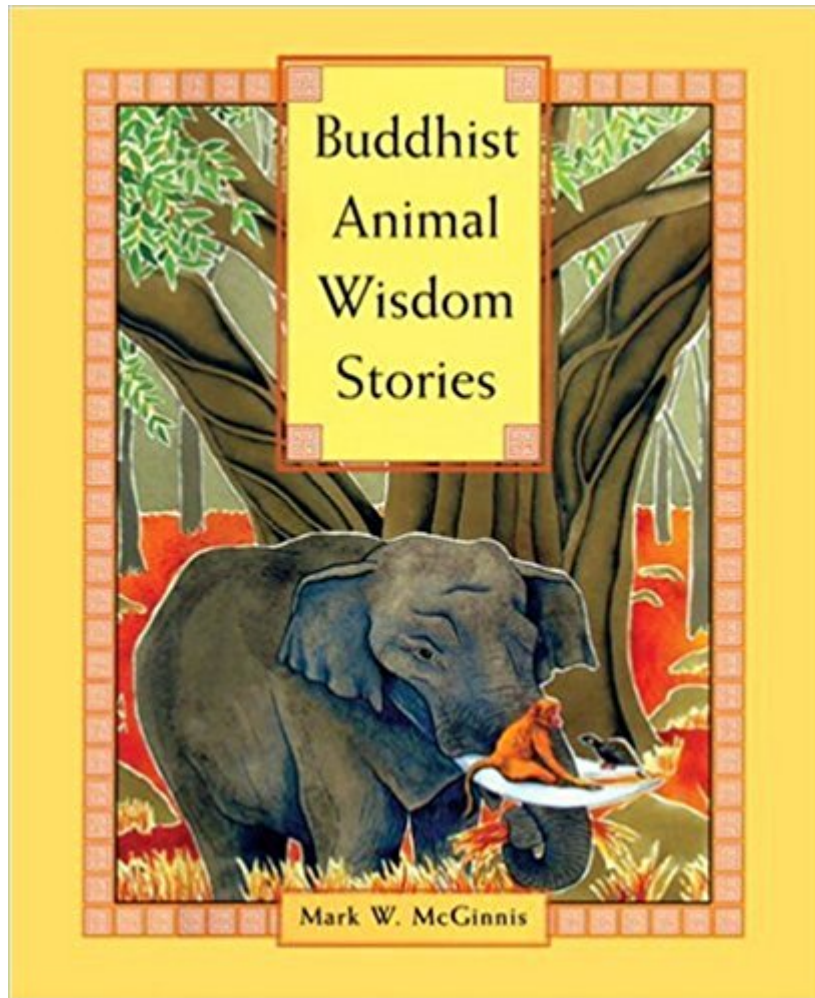




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# Buddhist Animal Wisdom Stories



## Synopsis

Around the beginning of the common era, Indian Buddhists began to collect fables, or jataka tales, illuminating various human virtues and foibles— from kindness, cooperation, loyalty and self-discipline on the one hand to greed, pride, foolishness, and treachery on the other. Instead of populating these stories with people, they cast the animals of their immediate environment in the leading roles—which may have given the tales a universal appeal that helped them travel around the world, surfacing in the Middle East as Aesop's fables and in various other guises throughout East and Southeast Asia, Africa, Russia, and Europe. Author and painter Mark McGinnis has collected over forty of these hallowed popular tales and retold them in vividly poetic yet accessible language, their original Buddhist messages firmly intact. Each story is accompanied with a beautifully rendered full-color painting, making this an equally attractive book for children and adults, whether Buddhist or not, who love fine stories about their fellow wise (and foolish) creatures.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 112 pages

Publisher: Weatherhill (November 9, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0834805510

ISBN-13: 978-0834805514

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.6 x 11.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #301,238 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in [Books > Children's Books](#) > Religions > Buddhism #13 in [Books > Children's Books > Religions > Eastern](#) #157 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales > Fairy Tales](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Mark McGinnis is an artist and educator based at Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. His interdisciplinary projects have been featured in over 110 solo exhibitions nationwide, and his previous publications include *Elders of the Faiths* (Ex Machina Press), *Lakota and Dakota Animal Wisdom Stories* (Tipi Press), and *Elders of the Benedictines*.

These are great stories full of pondering adages. I ordered this for my husband after our trip to see Borobudur as the first level of the complex has art inspired by these stories. I love asking him to tell me the stories over and then he also likes to bring them up over dinner or with friends to see what people conclude the moral of the story is. Everyone has different interpretations which are splendid and gives one a lot to think about.

At first my kids didn't want me to read this for them. After all they mostly read their own books now, but after I started reading for them they couldn't get enough of it. We read a story and then discuss the message in the story. Sometimes if the kids are in a dilemma we will refer back to the wisdom stories and say, what did you learn from the story. My oldest son took the book and started reading it on his own. It's a great book for both kids and adults.

I grew up on fairy tales, dark stories with ambiguous meanings. These short little stories set in Asia are gentler, simpler, and yet interesting to children and adults. They make perfect bedtimes stories because you can indulge your child and read two or three! She enjoys choosing just which ones she feels like hearing tonight. The pantheon of clever animals and simple peasants seems superior to me to all the royalty and witches of traditional fairy tales. You definitely don't need to have Buddhist leanings to enjoy these; most of them would be just as applicable to Christianity.

This book is full of some great stories to share with your kids. Each story has a unique lesson to be learned about life, kindness, forgiveness, and more. A great read for all. My kids really enjoyed the stories and the beautiful pictures.

Short fable format is not engaging for my kids. The stories often don't really even make any sense. Even I have a problem finding the moral sometimes. We have never made it through all the stories; the kids just don't stay focused. The artwork is great, but that doesn't carry the book.

This is a wonderful book. Calming and full of life lessons. Highly recommend!

A gorgeous collection of Tibetan tales offering lessons in ethical behavior utilizing animal characters. Lovely illustrations. I highly recommend it for reading aloud with elementary age and younger children. The adults will enjoy it too!

Insightful lessons for young listeners as well as the adult reader.

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Photo Book of Buddhist Holy Places: (Buddhist pilgrimage sites ) (Pictures of ancient Buddhist temples, stupas, shrines and monasteries) (buddha, asian, ... monastery, southeast, east, pilgrimage) Buddhist Animal Wisdom Stories Bedtime Stories for Kids: Short Bedtime Stories for Children: (Bedtime Stories for Babies, Bedtime stories for Kids Ages 4-8, Uncle Nick's Bedtime Stories ... (Uncle Nick's Bedtime Stories for Kids) Buddhist Quotes: Meditation, Happiness, Inner Peace.: Spirituality and Buddhism: Bouddha, Zen, Thich Nhat Hanh, DalaÃfÂ -LamaÃçâ -Â| (Buddhism, Bouddha, Buddhist ... & Spirituality, DalaÃfÂ Lama, Zen. Book 1) Bedtime Stories for Children: Short Bedtime Stories for Kids: (Bedtime Stories for Babies, Bedtime stories for Kids Ages 4-8, Uncle Nick's Fun Bedtime ... Nick's Bedtime Stories for Kids Book 3) Bedtime Stories for Kids: Short Bedtime Stories for Children: (Bedtime Stories for Babies, Bedtime stories for Kids Ages 4-8, Uncle Nick's Fun Bedtime ... Nick's Bedtime Stories for Kids Book 1) Animal Migration (Animal Behavior) (Animal Behavior (Library)) Training the Wisdom Body: Buddhist Yogic Exercise Wisdom Embodied: Chinese Buddhist and Daoist Sculpture in The Metropolitan Museum of Art The Mind Illuminated: A Complete Meditation Guide Integrating Buddhist Wisdom and Brain Science for Greater Mindfulness The Mind Illuminated: A Complete Meditation Guide Integrating Buddhist Wisdom and Brain Science The Wisdom of the Crows and Other Buddhist Tales Kindness: A Treasury of Buddhist Wisdom for Children and Parents (Little Light of Mine Series) Approaching the Buddhist Path (The Library of Wisdom and Compassion) Approaching the Buddhist Path (The Library of Wisdom and Compassion Book 1) Buddhist Wisdom: The Diamond Sutra and The Heart Sutra The Buddha Is Still Teaching: Contemporary Buddhist Wisdom The Fruitful Darkness: A Journey Through Buddhist Practice and Tribal Wisdom The Wisdom of Imperfection: The Challenge of Individuation in Buddhist Life Kindness: A Treasury of Buddhist Wisdom for Children and Parents (This Little Light of Mine)

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