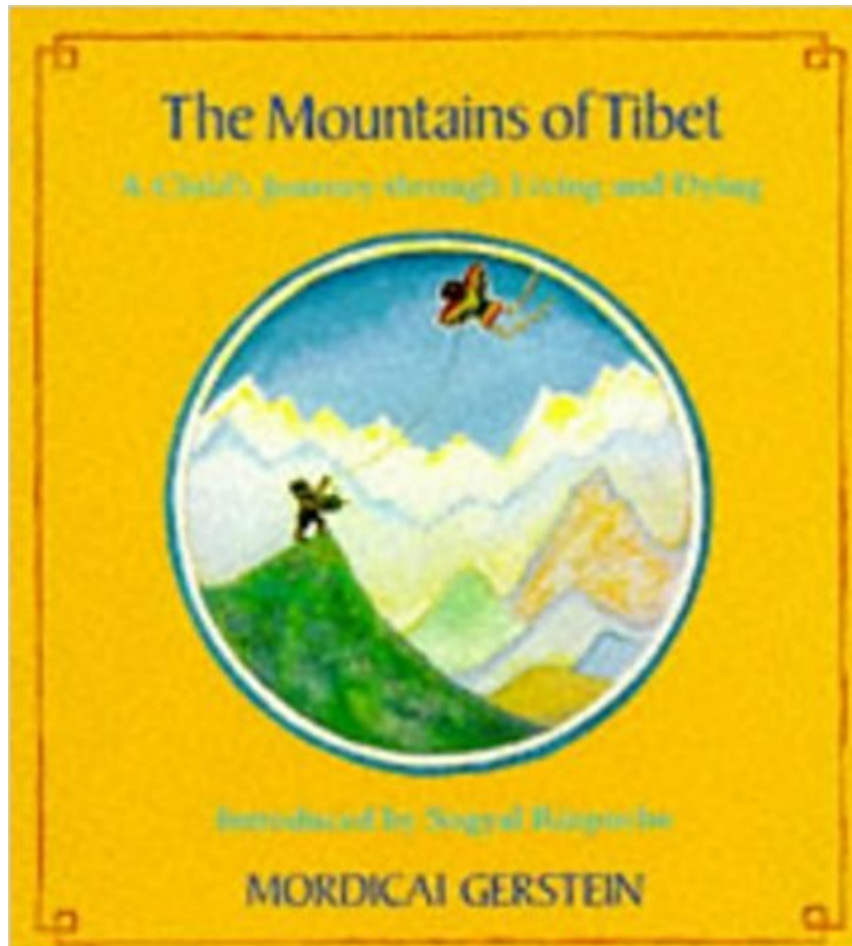




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The Mountains Of Tibet



Synopsis

In a tiny village, high in the mountains of Tibet, lives a woodcutter. All his life he has longed to travel to faraway places, to see the world. But he grows old without ever leaving the mountain. When he dies, he is suddenly offered the chance to live another life, in any form he wants, anywhere in the galaxies. Carefully he decides... and finds himself in a place he never thought he would choose.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this fantasy of reincarnation, a humble Tibetan woodcutter dies without ever realizing his dream to "see" the world. But in death he is offered a second chance. All he has to do is choose the place and form of life most appealing to him. He ponders over swirling galaxies and sparkling stars, each time following his heart and each time choosing what is dear to him: a landscape that looks familiar, parents whose loving faces seem to wink and smile in welcome to him. After all his decisions are made, the woodcutter's ultimate choice is to return as a little girl, thus continuing the never-ending cycle of life. The selection process is both a philosophical journey and a joyful homecoming; readers may want to cry out, "But of course!" every time the woodcutter narrows his choices. Gerstein's exquisite watercolor and gouache illustrations are worthy of framing, displaying the whirling chaos of indecision, the vast number of planets, cities and people from which to choose, and the small, twinkly-eyed girl who flies kites in The Mountains of Tibet. Ages 7-up. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 2 Up This story of the death and reincarnation of a Tibetan woodcutter is a beautifully gentle look at one human being dealing with life's choices and possibilities. As a boy, he thought about other worlds that he would someday visit; as a man, he thought of other countries and people, yet "he was always busy with his work and his wife and children." After his death, he is given the option of being part of "the endless universe some call heaven" or living another life, and he chooses another life. The choices which follow take him through all the galaxies, stars, planets, creatures, peoples, countries, and parents before arriving at the final twist in this journey back to where he had been almost. Thus, the story comes full circle. The quiet, rhythmic text is in perfect unity with the softly colored but radiant watercolor and gouache illustrations, leaving readers with a sense of wholeness and resolution. The golden borders neatly tuck the story in and add to its feeling of satisfaction and quiet joy. The real world scenes are in neatly boxed frames while the worlds of possibilities are displayed in mandala-like circular drawings. The main character, pictured in his small personal mandala, shows a range of emotions and dance-like movement. The kites held by the children in three scenes connect the multiple worlds of the story, providing both a grounding in the world we know and a means to soar beyond it. Children will appreciate the well-told tale and the joyous satisfaction of being one's own self in a large and magical world. Kay E. Vandergrift, School of Communication, Information and Library Studies, Rutgers Univ . , New Brunswick, N.J. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a beautiful story about death and reincarnation. It is an excellent way to explain your beliefs or even different beliefs. I tell my kids that I don't know what happens after death, no one does. So we explore different beliefs and talk about what we feel to be true. I have read this book again and again. I really can't describe how nicely written and simple it is.

This beautifully illustrated book is suitable to both younger and older readers. Based on the Tibetan Book of the Dead, it leads from old age and death to the intermediate stage between lives, the choices available to us in choosing a new birth, and the return to incarnation. For those who believe in reincarnation and karma, it offers a simple, instructive, beautiful glimpse of some of the process of our unfoldment.

The best children's book ever--I read this to my daughters frequently when they were growing up. This copy was purchased for my future granddaughter, Brynlee Beth.

Happy book, simple explanation of reincarnation for children.

I had read this book years ago and was happy to find it again. The message is simple and lovely--love what you have. And pay attention. You may be much much happier than you think you are.

I love this book. I don't care what religion you are or are not, this book is full of beautiful illustrations and a lovely interpretation of what some people may believe happens in the afterlife. It's sweet, beautiful, and an opportunity to talk about your own family's beliefs/ideas/lack of belief and what you think or wonder about life and death. I see this as an opening to great explorations and conversations.

This is a beautiful book! A wonderful way to explore alternative ideas of life and death with young children.

This book is one of the best children's books I have ever read. It is also a wonderful, thoughtful book for adults to read. It has many messages - not the least of which is that the woodcutter thought he wanted to go different places while he was alive, but when given the choice he choose to live his life over again, but as a girl. His life had been happy. This message is important in today's world of always wanting more than you have. Although this book deals with the concept of re-incarnation it really does not exclude what a Christian child has been taught. I read this to my 6 year old last night and she had a lot of questions. I was able to explain to her that no one knows exactly what happens after you die, but these are some possibilities. He could have gone to heaven (Christian) or could come back to live another life (Buddist). This is a wonderful way to introduce Buddhism to children. As another reader pointed out, the concept of having your loved ones around you in a different form is very comforting. The illustrations are also wonderful.

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