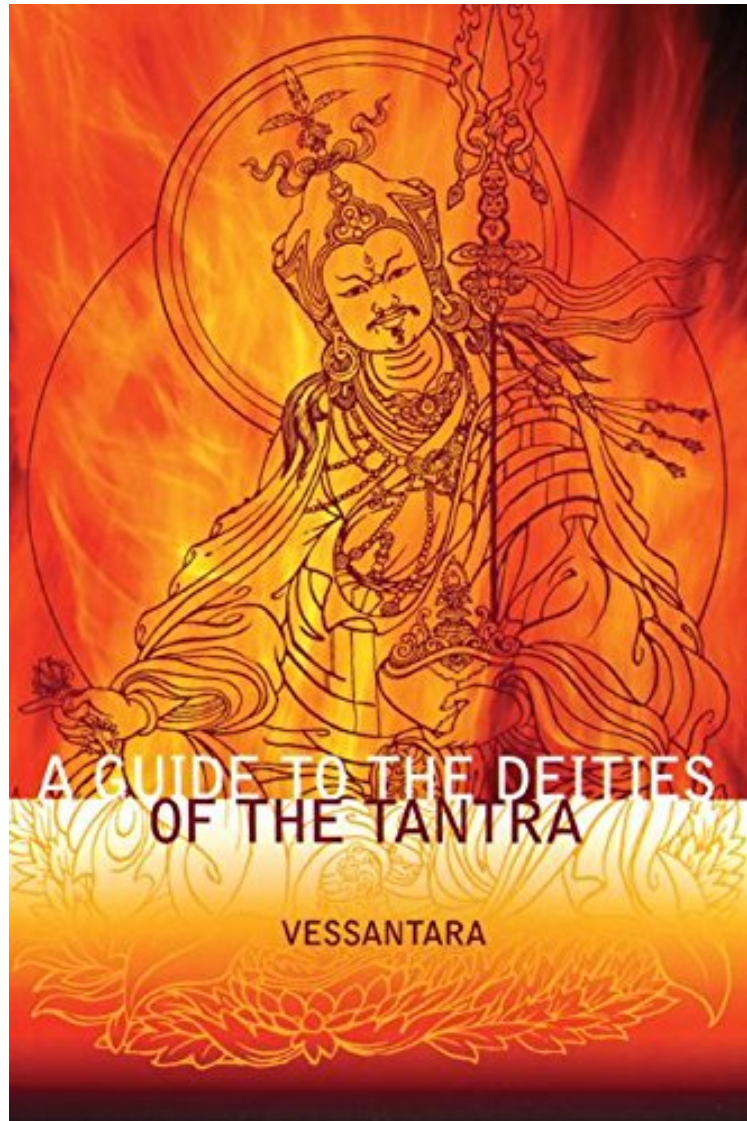


[Download] A Guide to the Deities of the Tantra (Meeting the Buddhas)

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Vessantara (Tony McMahon)

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Vessantara (Tony McMahon) : A Guide to the Deities of the Tantra (Meeting the Buddhas) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Guide to the Deities of the Tantra (Meeting the Buddhas):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent By C. D. Varn Probably my favorite of the three volumes in Vessantara's "Meet the Buddhas" series as it goes into detail about the Tantric deities and visualizations, explains the sadhanas without going into things that break Tantric vows, explaining the art work and the various roles played by the figures as well as the categorical meanings. It also makes comparisons between the four main schools (the recently

official Jonangpa having been re-introduced into mainline Tibetan buddhist thought, there are some things that Vessantara did not seem to know about Kalachakra for example) and explains the differences fairly well. This is from the FWBO/The Triratna Buddhist Community perspective and is going to be inclusive, although I was a little sad Vessantara didn't incorporate more from Shingon and Tendai (although he does mention Tiantai's syncretic tendencies to justify Triratna's approach) into his descriptions. He had mentioned them more in his work about the dhyani Buddhas and the relationship to Sakyamuni. This is a very minor complaint with the book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Lady Seraphina Vessantara is outstanding. Read anything and everything from him, if you are a Westerner trying to understand Buddhism. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. About The Different Editions of This Book... By Theseus This important Tony McMahon (Vessantara) book has been released in several different versions. Windhorse Publications first published this in 1993. It was revised in the 1994 release. In 2008 they released three "new" books which simply divided the original Meeting the Buddhas into three shorter books (A Guide to the Buddhas, ...to the Deities of the Tantra, ...to the Bodhisattvas.) There are also two hardback copies of Meeting the Buddhas you can find -- both a bit pricey.

A Guide to the Deities of the Tantra is a fascinating insight into a subject that has captivated the imagination of many but remains mysterious and exotic to all but a few. Tantric deities? Who are they and what do they do? This volume focuses on the deities whose mantra recitation and colorful visualizations lie at the heart of the Tantra. We meet goddesses of wisdom, the prince of purity, the lotus-born guru Padmasambhava, and dakinis wild-haired women who dance in the flames of freedom. All, the peaceful and the wrathful alike, urge the reader to break through to wisdom, pointing out the true nature of reality with uncompromising vigor. Devoid of pop culture misperceptions, this guide is a window into the sometimes mysterious world of Buddhist Tantra. Vessantara explores the key characteristics of the Tantra in this magical fusion of the practical and the imaginative giving us a direct insight into the poetry and the power of the Tantra. A much-published and well-respected Buddhist author, meditator, and teacher, Vessantara is a senior member of the Western Buddhist Order. He holds a particular love for Tibetan Buddhism and is well-known as an effective storyteller. This is one of three volumes looking at Buddha figures in the Indo-Tibetan Buddhist tradition.

About the Author A much published and well-respected Buddhist author, meditator and teacher, Vessantara is a senior member of the Western Buddhist Order. He holds a particular love for Tibetan Buddhism and is known particularly as an effective storyteller.