The story of Buddha’s life is timeless and is as relevant today as it was 2,500 years ago when Buddha was alive. Illustrated in full color, The Story of Buddha depicts major events from Buddha’s life that demonstrate how we also can develop kindness and compassion within ourselves. In this way we can eventually fulfill our own wishes as well as the wishes of all our friends. Few can fail to be inspired by this powerful story. This is the second book in the Buddhism for Children series. The Buddhism for Children series invites children to make a journey of self-discovery and self-improvement to help them realize their full potential. The series aims to show how everyone, Buddhist and non-Buddhist, can learn something from the teachings of Buddha. The Buddhism for Children series consists of 4 levels ranging from ages 4 to 10 and over.

**Synopsis**

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**Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars  
Age Range: 7 - 10 years  
Grade Level: 2 - 4  

**Customer Reviews**

First, I gave it two stars because the artwork was nice and the writing was at a good level for children. However, the book is contrary in spirit and detail to any Buddhist teaching I have encountered. I was looking for a way to introduce my kids to the ideas behind Buddhism, which can be quite complex. If this is also what you are looking for, do not buy this book! Having them watch Star Wars, and discussing the ideas of Yoda, the Jedi Knights, and (when they are older) how attachment and ego led Anakin to the Dark Side, would be a thousand times more Buddhist than
this book. To be specific: it describes the story of a compassionate Prince Siddhartha who grew up
praying for people he saw suffering from sickness, praying for people he saw suffering from old age,
praying for people he saw suffering from death. All this with pictures of a young Prince Siddhartha,
implying that he had been exposed to these things his whole life, and there is no mention of his
having been sheltered from them and suddenly being exposed when he left the palace as an adult.
As far as his leaving, there is no mention of his first choosing the life of an extreme ascetic and then
finding the Middle Way-- it talks of enlightened Buddhas coming to him in a vision, leading him to
ask to leave the palace & then having his request refused by his father, who kept him locked in with
armed guards while trying to entice him to stay with music and dancing girls. It then tells of
Siddhartha using "his miracle powers to send the guards and everyone in the palace into a deep
sleep" and sneaking out with the help of a friend, then sitting under the Bodhi tree in a type of
meditation called "space-like concentration". (!!!!!!!!

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