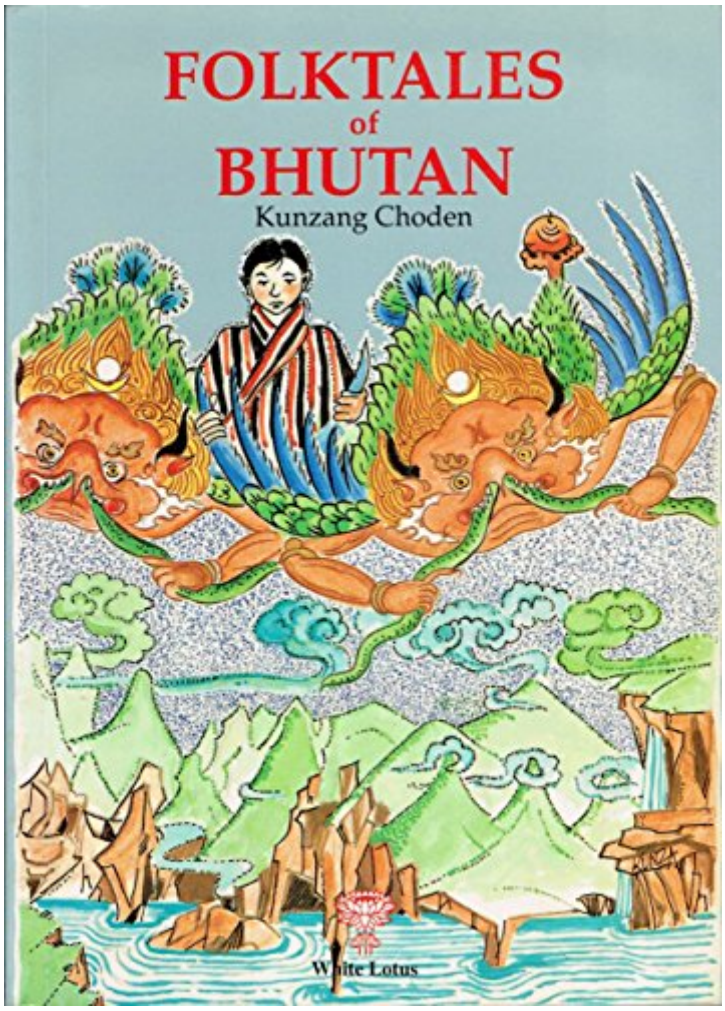
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Folktales Of Bhutan



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Synopsis

From the author of Bhutanese Tales of the Yeti another dip into the library of the storytellers from the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan.Folktales of Bhutan is a collection of thirty-eight folktales and legends and is a first attempt by a Bhutanese to record in English the oral tradition of this kingdom in the eastern Himalayas. All of the stories recounted here were heard by the author when she was a child living in Bumthang in the central part of Bhutan and are the ones that she passes on to her children today, in the spirit of the oral tradition.In BhutanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s centuries of self-imposed isolation brought about by both its geographically remote position and political considerations, the Bhutanese oral tradition evolved and thrived. The rugged and awesome terrain and the peopleÃ¢â ¬â„¢s closeness to nature, together with their philosophy of karmic life cycles, an unquestioning belief in unseen co-inhabitants of the earth like spirits, ghosts and demons and the creative genius of the storytellers culminated in a remarkable repository of tales and legends which were passed on from one generation to the next.Each story has been aptly illustrated by a Bhutanese artist who combines the traditional Bhutanese/Buddhist iconographic stylized forms together with his own artistic perceptions.

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Customer Reviews

Something that is slowly vanishing, as the country progresses, Kunzang Choden has grabbed the truth of it and recorded it splendidly before it fades away. Culture. Tradition. The passing down. What was once done orally,the indigenous folktales of Bhutan as the author remembered them told in her childhood are offered to us with an array of humorous, touching, pleasing stories. Apparently the author realized that the stories were starting to be replaced by modern technology. In doing so, so much was lost. Here she takes us on a rich journey through her country, and it's fading folktales that she has vividly bought back to life. And for those who want to know more about this country, this book would be even more recommended.

'Folk tales of Bhutan' is the first of a two volume collection of Buthanese folk tales and legends by Kunzang Choden. The second volume is entitled, 'Bhutanese Tales of the Yeti'. Both are excellent books that are very fascinating and also fun to read. Kunzang Choden has not only done a wonderful job by retelling these stories in both her books, but she has also preserved Buthanese oral tradition for everyone to appreciate.

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