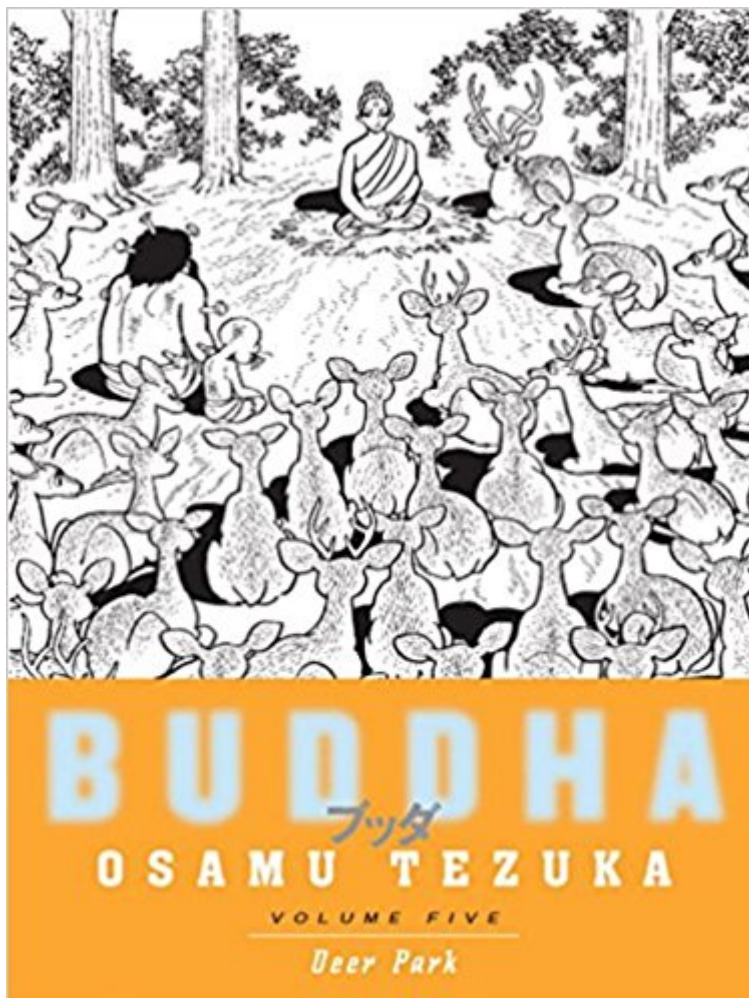


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Buddha, Vol. 5: Deer Park



Synopsis

In the fifth installment of manga-godfather Osamu Tezuka's Buddha, engagement with death imparts the lesson of life's sanctity. In a Machiavellian rise to power, Devadatta, a rogue aristocrat, incites war between two kingdoms that will leave thousands dead. King Bimisara of Magadha, fearing death his son's own hand, withdraws fatherly love. The true measure of the Buddha's divinity will turn out to be a test of diplomacy - the power of words.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Japanese comics pioneer Tezuka's monumental account of the life of the Buddha continues. Little is known about the life of the sixth-century-B.C.E. spiritual leader, so Tezuka devotes much of the narrative to characters he created as well as figures from early Buddhist lore, through them portraying the violent society and cruel caste system that the Buddha challenged. Deer Park opens with a meeting between the fictional swordsman Tatta and the historical Devadatta, both of whose lives would be transformed by the Buddha. Tatta pledges his life to the Buddha after the voice of his bandit lover, Migaila, is miraculously restored; but Devadatta goes on to become the Buddha's greatest enemy. Deer Park also includes a key event in the Buddha's story: the delivery of his first sermon in a field in which deer and other wild beasts gather. Those expecting a solemn treatment of Buddhist foundations may be taken aback by Tezuka's approach, which encompasses humor and, indeed, broad slapstick and lowbrow, anachronistic jokes that frequently break the fourth wall, as when Tatta removes his helmet in battle, saying, "Tezuka says it's hard to draw anyway." Others

may object to the frequent violence or the casual nudity. Those who approach the work open-mindedly can't but be impressed by Tezuka's compassionate humanism--a quality distinguishing his work throughout his long career--and masterful storytelling. Gordon Flagg

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"Infused with humor and history, the epic of Siddhartha is perhaps Osamu Tezuka's crowning achievement and illustrates why, without irony, Tezuka is referred to as 'The King of Japanese Comics'." - LA Weekly

"Buddha is one of Tezuka's true masterpieces. We're lucky to have this excellent new edition in English." - Scott McCloud, author of Understanding Comics

"In handsome volumes designed by Chip Kidd, the Vertical books present Tezuka at his best." - National Post

"Buddha is an engrossing tale. The armchair philosopher, the devout Buddhist, the casual manga fan - this book satisfies all with its tale of humanism through sequential art, and definitely earns its place on a bibliophile's bookshelf." - Anime Insider

"This is one of the greatest achievements of the comics medium, a masterpiece by one of the greats." - Artbomb.net

"In Tezuka's world, the exquisite collapses into the goofy in a New York minute, the goofy into the melodramatic, the melodramatic into the brutal, and the brutal into the sincerely touching. The surprising result is a work wholly unique and downright fun." - Time Out NY

"Tezuka's Buddha is a striking and memorable confluence of ancient wisdom and contemporary popular art." - Yoga Journal

Tezuka's work is amazing and the telling of this story is like no other.

Good read

Osamu Tezuka's work is awesome if you consider the year he developed this book, I haven't finished yet the very first book but read a bit from this one and it's great.

Great condition thx

I picked up one of these books at our local library and fell in love with the story. After purchasing the complete set, I am glad I went into the library that day.

This volume of legendary Japanese cartoonist Osamu Tezuka is a masterpiece, reaching peak

drama; the parallel stories all converge fully in a dramatic encounter. His detailed black and white drawings are moving, vivid and cinematic. He narrates with great wisdom, depth and comedy. This volume is the most exciting and fast-paced of them all so far. As Tezuka builds toward the climax of the story with his lesser story threads, he subtly explores Buddhist precepts. He tugs at our emotions; surely the cycle of violence can be stopped - or can it? What is remarkable is he is able to do this while entertaining; as readers, we become spellbound by his picture-perfect drawings. Even if you are not a fan of Japanese manga or Buddhism try this one; Tezuka may win you over.

Tatta now finds himself charmed into becoming a guardsman for a king by Devadatta. He is very good at his job, and quickly moves up the ranks, and begins to see ways to seek his revenge on Kosalan. Meanwhile, having achieved enlightenment Siddhartha finds demons still tempt him, other monks test him, and finds disciples in deer. This is one of the better books in the series. All of the stories work well together, and deliver a strong message of about the Buddha's teachings. In the last chapter, war is starting to break out. Three of the main characters (Buddha, Tatta, and the Crystal Prince) encounter each other in the forest, setting up, and foreshadows, the next part of the story.

This is a good book for young people that would like to understand more about Buddhism. This is in a comic book format, so kids will really like it. The drawing style is animee. It reads like a comic book. If you are a parent, you should know that there are a few curse words that some parents may find inappropriate and that there is blood in some of the pictures. But it is no different than any other comic book that way. This is a very good book and I recommend it! In this particular book, Buddha gets older and starts to be in the part of his life when he dictates his teachings to deer. This is important because he considers all being deserve compassion, not just humans. If this is your first time with this series, definitely start w/ book #1 first. The series starts when he is a baby and continues through his enlightenment. So you should read them in order. It is very good for kids to know different religions just so they know about them. Some adults I know really like this book too. I loaned it to one of my teachers.

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