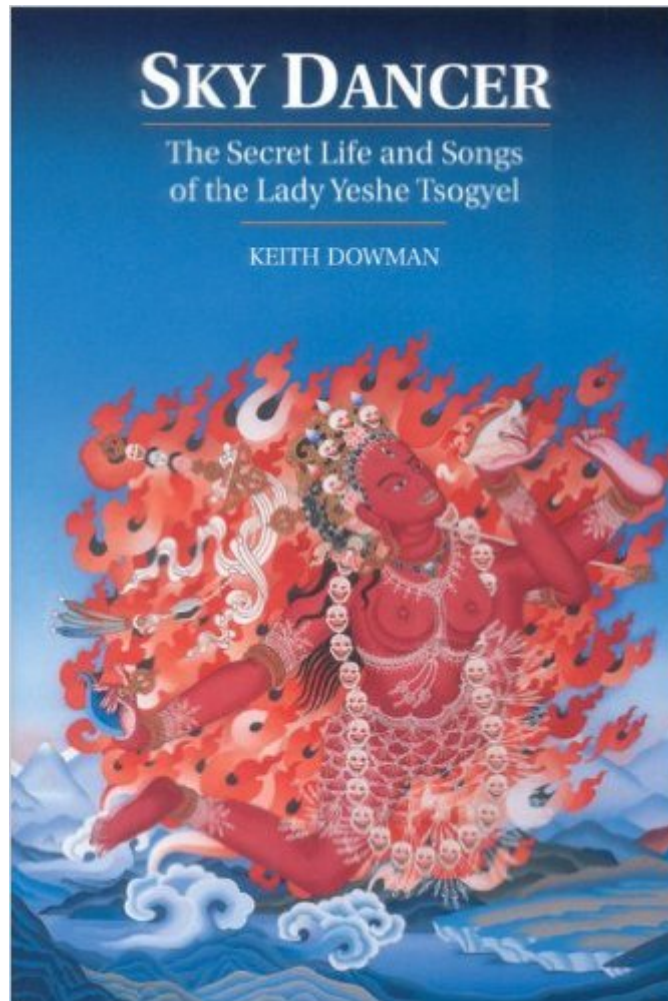


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Sky Dancer: The Secret Life And Songs Of Lady Yeshe Tsogyel



Synopsis

Yeshe Tsogyel, consort of Guru Padmasambhava, is the most famous of the enlightened women of Tibet. Women have a special place in tantra, but except for Sky Dancer there are few writings that present the spiritual practices and evolution of female aspirants. Here women are in an eminent position, and a path of practice is given for present-day initiates to emulate. Keith Dowman has added a commentary on the path of inner tantra, woman and the dakini, and the Nyingma lineages.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If I could have only one book, one to carry with me and drink from while sojourning here, this is the book. Tantra yoga is sometimes called "highest" tantra yoga, and this book makes clear just what's highest about it. But I'm getting ahead. First, I'd like to applaud Keith Dowman, the translator, for his courage. Some of you may have read Mr. Dowman's translation of the bawdy life and enlightened adventures of Drukpa Kunley (*The Divine Madman*, apparently out-of-print, and sometimes hard to find), and know how Mr. Dowman has an ardent interest in examining just what sex and enlightenment might have to do with each other. And while examining this question, he keeps the language juicy. I can't understate how helpful that is to me (a straight male). Instead of serving up the usual feast of impossible and impenetrable buddhist terminology, he calls sexual parts by their western bedroom names, and introduces sexual situations with a sense of humor. In this modern era of famous celibate monks from the East--many of whom seem to get in trouble when they come West and encounter women living and behaving in nontraditional, nonpatriarchal ways--such writing is for me most refreshing. The Dalai Lama has been quoted as saying that in his opinion there may be no one alive on the earth presently, capable of successfully practicing highest Tantra yoga. The

Dalai Lama delights me, and he may be right. But for those of us born and raised in the West, for whom negative attitudes toward sex do not seem a healthy spiritual possibility, what other choice do we have but to go INTO the matter rather than avoid it? This book goes into the matter.

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