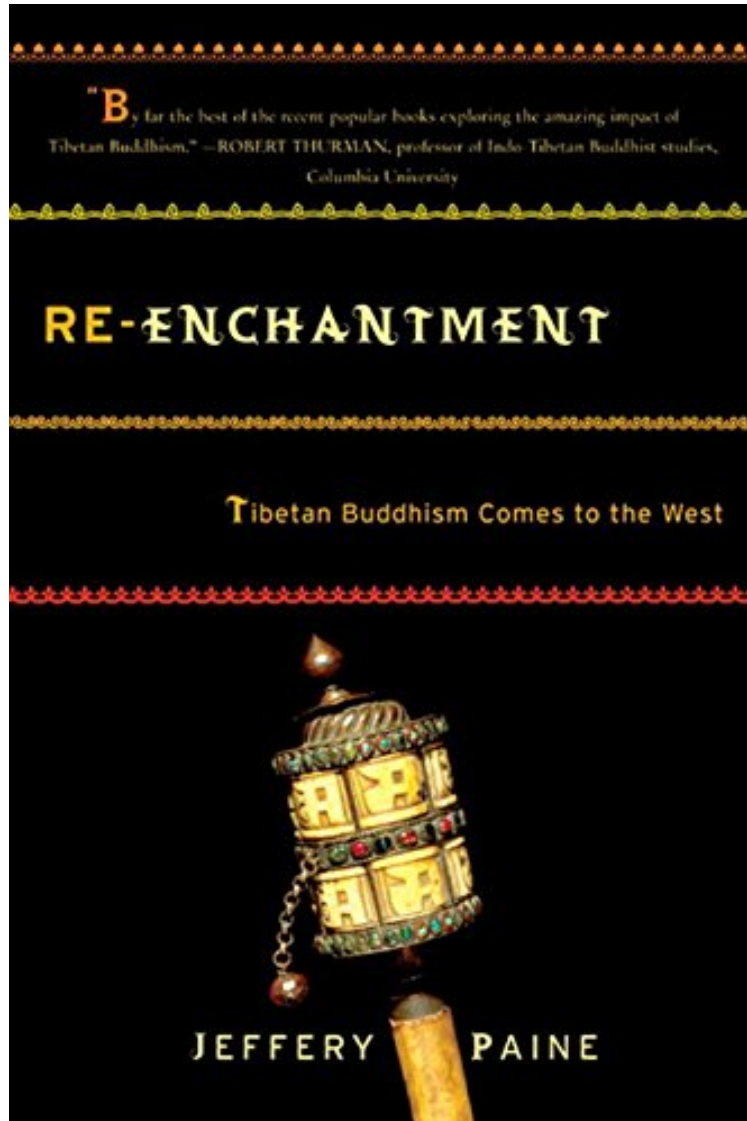


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## Re-enchantment: Tibetan Buddhism Comes to the West

Jeffery Paine

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1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. buddhism and travellersBy therese von wildeIn Re-enchantment (2004) by Jeffery Paine we get to know the history of how buddhism came to the west, and we get notice of travellers going both ways, from east to west and vice versa. Paine knows the facts, not the gossip and gives us a fabulous account of inspired travellers, daring lamas and people who just felt the call of Tibet. It's like a brief Who is who in 20th century buddhism, and the reader wants to know more about these people. In his book Adventures with the

Buddha (2005), we have texts written by most of the people Paine introduced in *Re-enchantment*, but now they are first-person written texts, autobiographical and absolutely enchanting and captivating for all those who like both travelling and buddhism. After reading about you just wish you could meet them! 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One of my favorites! By Californiabuttercup This is one of my favorite books on Tibetan Buddhism. Good for an introduction as well as someone more familiar with the practice and traditions. Charming! 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Loved this book By Adelaide Loved this book-- amazing writing wonderful telling of Tibetan Buddhism coming to the US.

The colorful tale of the successful flowering of an obscure, ancient Eastern sect in the modern world. In a single generation, Tibetan Buddhism developed from the faith of a remote mountain people, associated with bizarre, almost medieval, superstitions, to perhaps the most rapidly growing and celebrity-studded religion in the West. Disaffected with other religious traditions yet searching for meaning, huge numbers of Americans have found their way to the wisdom of Tibetan lamas in exile. Earthy, humorous, commonsensical, and eccentric, these flamboyant teachers larger-than-life characters like Lama Yeshe and Chogyam Trungpa proved to be charismatic and gifted ambassadors for their ancient religion. So did two Western women, born in Brooklyn and London's East End, whose homegrown religious intuitions turned out to be identical with the most sophisticated Tibetan teachings, revealing them to be reincarnated lamas. With great flair for both the sublime and the human, Jeffrey Paine narrates in page-turning, richly informative fashion how Tibetan Buddhism rarefied and sensual, mystical and commonsensical became the ideal religion for a "post-religious" age. "By far the best of the recent popular books exploring the amazing impact of Tibetan Buddhism. Paine's witty, erudite, flowing prose creates a memorable album of many characters saints, rascals, and ordinary folks. He glosses over nothing, is ruthlessly critical where it is deserved, but is also secure enough to appreciate the beauty and the power of the 'magic and mystery': the profound practical wisdom and compassion of Tibetan civilization gone global." Robert Thurman, Jey Tsong Khapa Professor of Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Studies, Columbia University "Riveting... Recounts elegantly, yet without fuss, stories of human transformation that consistently incite our capacity for wonder." Askold Melnyczuk, Boston Globe "Memorable anecdotes, great storytelling and keen observations mark this cogent exploration of the explosive growth of Tibetan Buddhism in the West." Publishers Weekly, starred review