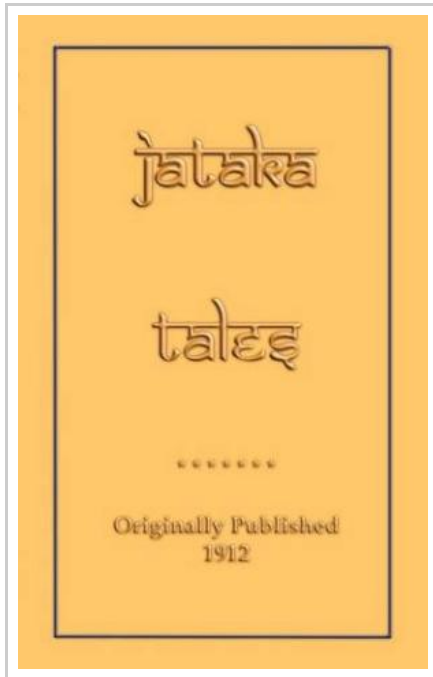




Jataka Tales

By Ellen C Babbitt

Abela Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Ellsworth Young (illustrator). Paperback. 94 pages. Dimensions: 7.8in. x 5.0in. x 0.4in. The Jatakas, or birth-stories, form one of Buddhism's sacred books. They relate the adventures of the Buddha in his former existences. Carved railings around the relic shrines of Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh and Amaravati in Andhra Pradesh indicate that the birth-stories were widely known in the third century B. C. The Jataka Tales contain deep truths, and are calculated to impress lessons of great moral beauty. The tale of the Merchant of Seri, who gave up all that he had in exchange for a golden dish, embodies much the same idea as the New Testaments parable of the priceless pearl. The tale of the Measures of Rice illustrates the importance of a true estimate of values. The tale of the Banyan Deer, which offered its life to save a roe and her young, illustrates self-sacrifice of the noblest sort. The tale of the Sandy Road is one of the finest in the collection. While some of the stories are based in Buddhist ideology, many are age-old fables, the flotsam and jetsam of folk-lore that have appeared under various guises throughout the centuries. At...



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