Lonely Planet Tibet In the early days of Vajrayana few Tibetan Lamas visited Britain, and eager students were often prepared to travel considerable distances to receive instruction. Yet some sought out a young Englishman recently returned from the Himalayas. Inspired by the magic and mystery of Tibet, they were keen to discover the lived meaning. Ngak’chang Rinpoche’s teachings were simple, direct, and experiential. The four evening talks contained here deal with the themes studied by everyone exploring Buddhism in depth: the four noble truths, eightfold path, causality, compassion and refuge. This material is discussed in creative contemporary English, and presented from a perspective informed by Dzogchen. Rinpoche was first asked to teach by Gétsulma Tsültrim Zangmo, a Western nun whom Rinpoche named ‘ö-Zér Nyima after she received Dzogchen transmissions from him. ‘ö-Zér Nyima means Rays of the Sun and this book is dedicated to the memory of this extraordinary English woman.

Magic and Mystery in Tibet. With an Introd. by A. D’Arsonval Nineteenth-century Tibetan mystic Tertön Sogyal was a visionary, whose mastery of meditation led him to be a revered teacher to the Thirteenth Dalai Lama. Known for his deep spiritual insights and service to the nation of Tibet, Tertön Sogyal’s ability to harness the power of the mind was born of both his profound understanding of the Buddha’s teachings and the unique experiences he had while striving for peace against tremendous odds. His life is an example of courage and diligence appreciated by spiritual practitioners of all traditions; and his practical instructions on meditation and opening one’s heart—amid conflict, uncertainty, and change—are as relevant today as they were during his lifetime. Fearless in Tibet, the first comprehensive work in English on Tertön Sogyal, captures the essence of his teachings, visions, and spiritual realizations,
as well as the challenges he faced during his early yogic training and his efforts
to promote harmony between Tibet and China. Combining riveting storytelling
and Tertön Sogyal’s profound instructions, Matteo Pistono takes you on a
journey through a mystical past that reveals practical inner guidance for today’s
challenges. You will see the power of transforming negativity into opportunity,
letting go of attachments, becoming mindfully present, and embracing
impermanence. This intricate tapestry of intrigue and spirituality will infuse
your path with timeless wisdom and inspiration.

Magic and Mystery in Tibet, Etc This exotic mystery involving the pursuit of a
murderer across Tibet and into China is written by a Tibetan monk and a
nineteenth-century adventuress

Magic and Mystery in Tibet Imprisoned in India by the British when World War
II was declared, Austrian climber Heinrich Harrer escaped, crossing the
Himalayas to Tibet. Settling in Lhasa, the Forbidden City, he became the tutor
and friend of the present Dalai Lama in this classic of adventure literature.

Occult Tibet ‘Brilliant and riveting. This book shows us that freedom is a choice
we can all make’ Gelong Thubten, author of A Monk’s Guide to Happiness ‘A
fascinating story of an incredible life, told with unflinching honesty’ Dr John
Sellars author of Lessons in Stoicism

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Lama Yeshe didn’t see a car until he was
fifteen years old. In his quiet village, he and other children ran through fields
with yaks and mastiffs. The rhythm of life was anchored by the pastoral cycles.
The arrival of Chinese army cars in 1959 changed everything. In the wake of the
deadly Tibetan Uprising, he escaped to India through the Himalayas as a
refugee. One of only 13 survivors out of 300 travellers, he spent the next few
years in America, experiencing the excesses of the Woodstock generation before
reforming in Europe. Now in his seventies and a leading monk at the Samye
Ling monastery in Scotland - the first Buddhist centre in the West - Lama Yeshe
casts a hopeful look back at his momentous life. From his learnings on self-
compassion and discipline to his trials and tribulations with loss and failure, his
poignant story mirrors our own struggles. Written with erudition and humour,
From a Mountain in Tibet shines a light on how the most desperate of situations
can help us to uncover vital life lessons and attain lasting peace and
contentment.

Alexandra David-Neel In Tibetan religious literature, Jamgön Kongtrül's
Treasury of Knowledge in ten books stands out as a unique, encyclopedic
masterpiece embodying the entire range of Buddhist teachings as they were
preserved in Tibet. In his monumental Treasury of Knowledge, Jamgön Kongtrül
presents a complete account of the major lines of thought and practice that
comprise Tibetan Buddhism. This first book of The Treasury which serves as a
prelude to Kongtrül's survey describes four major cosmological systems found in
the Tibetan tradition—those associated with the Hinayana, Mahayana,
Kalachakra, and Dzogchen teachings. Each of these cosmologies shows how the
world arises from mind, whether through the accumulated results of past
actions or from the constant striving of awareness to know itself.

Egregores A practicing Buddhist and Oriental linguist recounts supernatural
events she witnessed in Tibet during the 1920s. Intelligent and witty, she describes the fantastic effects of meditation and shamanic magic -- levitation, telepathy, more. 32 photographs.

Tibetan Tale of Love and Magic Amongst the strange events she describes are how Tibetan mystics can live naked in zero temperatures; how they can run incredible distances without rest, food or drink; how they utilize telepathy; and how they appear to defy gravity. About Author- Alexandra David-Neel (1868-1969), born in Paris to a socially prominent family, once boasted, I learned to run before I could walk! In the course of a lifetime of more than one hundred years, she was an acclaimed operatic soprano, a political anarchist, a religious reformer, an interpid explorer who traveled in Tibet for fourteen years, a scholar of Buddhism, and the author of more than forty books. But perhaps the most intriguing of all her adventures was the spiritual search that lead her from a youthful interest in socialism and Freemasonry to the teachings of the great sages in India and culminated into her initiation into the secret tantric practices of Tibetan Buddhism.

Magic and Mystery in Tibet Generations of isolated Tibetan monks have devoted their lives to an unparalleled investigation of the human mind and soul. Over many centuries, as Buddhism blended with Bon, the aboriginal shamanic religion of Tibet, a great esoteric tradition evolved. In this revised and expanded version of Occult Tibet, the prolific and eclectic J.H. Brennan surveys this vast spiritual heritage born in the shadows of the Himalayas. The evolutionary result is apparent in the Tibetan languages, which is choc-a-bloc with different terms for (to the average Westerner) incomprehensibly subtle levels of meditation and trance. Generations of monks, sequestered in monasteries that sometimes reached the size of small towns, devoted their lives to an investigation of the human mind that is literally unparalleled anywhere on earth. Where Western psychology chose the path of theory and investigation, these men became psychonauts, mounting a personal exploration of inner space that carried them to realms of strangeness ranging from the development of near miraculous powers to the contemplation of ultimate reality. This book explores their findings. It presents a unique and fascinating view of Tibetan culture and spirituality, Tibetan magic and Mysticism bringing the ancient magical techniques of Tibet to the magicians and mystics of the West.Delhi, Buddhism, Its Doctrines and Its Methods The definitive biography of the first European to explore Tibet at a time when foreigners were banned, this book draws on rare source material, including information from the secret files of the India office to offer a vividly detailed chronicle of both David-Neel's quest to conquer her personal demons, and the outer journey that made her one of the most celebrated figures of her day. 'The most astonishing woman of our time' - Lawrence Durrell 'A fascinating account' - Harper's Bazaar 'Happily accessible' - Allen Ginsberg

Tibetan Journey In 1959, French photojournalist Girard Pelletier dies while reporting on the Chinese invasion of Tibet. Neither his body nor his notes on Chinese human rights abuses are recovered; his colleagues believe he was murdered. Seventeen years later his wife, Erzebet, receives an official invitation from the Chinese Government to join an educational exchange in the same
region where Girard disappeared. She accepts the invitation. She believes she
will solve the mystery of her husband's death. She will find his murderers. While
in Tibet, a romance flares between Erzebet and Norbu, a handsome nomad.
Under the guise of needing someone to protect Erzebet, the village has sent him
to stay in her tent. The villagers have Girard's missing notes and are trying to
determine if she can be trusted to take them back to the West. Meanwhile, Kai
Lun, Erzebet's translator, is an unwilling spy. Police are holding his wife and
son hostage until he returns to China with the volatile documents. Kai Lun
bullies and browbeats Erzebet, the nomads and local monks in his relentless
search to surface the papers and ultimately is forced to confront his own
shrinking humanity. What appears to be a scholarly quest evolves into a twisting
tale of the police, forbidden romance, dangerous adventures, and personal
obsessions played out against the backdrop of the spectacular landscape, exotic
people, wildlife and flowers of Tibet.

The Treasury of Knowledge: Book One "The real history of man is the history of
religion." The truth of the famous dictum of Max Muller, the father of the
History of Religions, is nowhere so obvious as in Tibet. Western students have
observed that religion and magic pervade not only the forms of Tibetan art,
politics, and society, but also every detail of ordinary human existence. And
what is the all-pervading religion of Tibet? The Buddhism of that country has
been described to us, of course, but that does not mean the question has been
answered. The unique importance of Stephan Beyerís work is that it presents
the vital material ignored or slighted by others: the living ritual of Tibetan
Buddhists. The reader is made a witness to cultic proceedings through which
the author guides him carefully. He does not force one to accept easy
explanations nor does he direct one's attention only to aspects that can be
counted on to please. He leads one step by step, without omitting anything,
through entire rituals, and interprets whenever necessary without being unduly
obtrusive. Oftentimes, as in the case of the many hymns to the goddess Tara,
the superb translations speak directly to the reader, and it is indeed as if the
reader himself were present at the ritual.

The Dream of the Turquoise Bee Alexandra David-Neel was among the first
Westerners to extensively explore Tibet. In these memoirs she tells of her
encounters there; the people and their culture, and fervently Buddhist society.
The author's early years, wherein her enthusiasm for travel and curiosity of
faraway cultures grew, are excluded from these pages. Rather we begin with
David-Neel's first trip to Tibet, and her initial impressions of the country. The
friends she makes, and the various officials and Buddhist priests of varying rank
and station, are recounted vividly. As a Western woman, David-Neel did not
always encounter friendliness or tranquility in those she met: many were less
than welcoming, or even hostile, to her presence. As she was a pioneer in Tibet,
it is for these explorations that David-Neel is most remembered. The complex
traditions of the Tibetan lamas, and how its people existed upon the high
plateau of the Himalayas, fascinated many in Europe. Allowed meetings with
religious officials, including the 13th Dalai Lama, it was only after a decade of
exploring the Tibetan culture that David-Neel dared to go yet farther by
travelling, incognito, to Lhasa - the capital city, forbidden to all foreigners A
classic memoir, known for inspiring the writers and poets of the Beat
Generation, Magic and Mystery in Tibet is both biography and a great tale of
adventure.

The Bliss of Inner Fire Examines the life styles of gay men and women and discusses the role of gay culture in mainstream society.

The Mysteries of Magic - A Digest of the Writings of Eliphas Levi In the classic bestseller, Introduction to Tantra, Lama Yeshe offered a profound and wonderfully clear glimpse into the sophisticated practices of Tibetan Buddhist tantra. This present book, the last major teachings of this great lama, opens up the world of advanced practices for Highest Yoga Tantra initiates in much the same way his earlier work opened up the world of tantra in general. Following Je Tsongkhapa's (1357-1419 C.E.) text Having the Three Convictions, Lama Yeshe introduces the renowned Six Yogas of Naropa, focusing mainly on the first of these six, the practice of inner fire (tummo). Mastery of inner fire quickly brings the mind to its most refined and penetrating state--the experience of clear light, an extra-ordinarily powerful state of mind that is unequaled in its ability to directly realize ultimate reality. Lama Yeshe felt that twentieth-century Westerners could easily grasp the often misunderstood ideas of this esoteric tradition: "We really need tantra these days because there is a tremendous explosion of delusion and distraction. We need the atomic energy of inner fire to blast us out of our delusion." Lama Yeshe's aim was for his students to actually taste the experience of inner fire rather than merely gain an intellectual understanding. Lama's own realization of the transformative power of these practices comes through, inspiring his students to discover for themselves their own capacity for inexhaustible bliss.

Blazing Splendor

Magic and Mystery in Tibet Lonely Planet Tibet is your passport to the most relevant, up-to-date advice on what to see and skip, and what hidden discoveries await you. Hike around sacred Mt Kailash, join pilgrims at the Jokhang, Tibet's holiest sanctum, or view Mt Everest unobstructed from Rongphu Monastery; all with your trusted travel companion.

The Cult of Tara

Fearless in Tibet 2014 Reprint of 1932 New York Edition. Full facsimile of the original edition, not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. Alexandra David-Neel was a Belgian-French explorer, spiritualist, Buddhist, anarchist and writer, most known for her visit to Lhasa, Tibet, in 1924, when it was still forbidden to foreigners. David-Neel wrote over 30 books about Eastern religion, philosophy, and her travels. Her teachings influenced beat writers Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg, philosopher Alan Watts, and esotericist Benjamin Creme. Seeker, adventurer, pilgrim, and scholar, David-Neel (1868-1969) was the first European woman to explore the once-forbidden city of Lhasa. This memoir offers an objective account of the supernatural events she witnessed during the 1920s among the mystics and hermits of Tibet - including levitation, telepathy, and the ability to walk on water. Includes all the photographs from the original edition. 

Magic and Mystery in Tibet With unsurpassed honesty and humility, the highly
influential meditation master Tulku Urgyen Rinpoche offers a glimpse into the remarkable reality of Tibetan Buddhism, as well as an in depth portrait of the lost culture of old Tibet. This grand narrative stretches across generations, providing an inspiring glimpse into a realm of remarkable human achievement quite different from our familiar, mundane world. Intimate in tone, these personal memoirs recount the influences and experiences that shaped one of the great spiritual teachers of our time. Blazing Splendor is of both spiritual and historical importance.

Magic and Mystery in Tibet

My Journey to Lhasa

From a Mountain In Tibet The first book to explore the history and influence of egregores, powerful autonomous psychic entities created by a collective group mind • Examines the history of egregores from ancient times to present day, including their role in Western Mystery traditions and popular culture and media • Reveals documented examples of egregores from ancient Greece and Rome, Tibetan Buddhism, Islam, modern esoteric orders, the writings of H. P. Lovecraft and Kenneth Grant, and the followers of Julius Evola and Aleister Crowley • Provides instructions on how to identify egregores, free yourself from parasitic and destructive entities, and destroy an egregore, should the need arise One of most important but little known concepts of Western occultism is that of the egregore, an autonomous psychic entity created by a collective group mind. An egregore is sustained by belief, ritual, and sacrifice and relies upon the devotion of a group of people, from a small coven to an entire nation, for its existence. An egregore that receives enough sustenance can take on a life of its own, becoming an independent deity with powers its believers can use to further their own spiritual advancement and material desires. Presenting the first book devoted to the study of egregores, Mark Stavish examines the history of egregores from ancient times to present day, with detailed and documented examples, and explores how they are created, sustained, directed, and destroyed. He explains how egregores were well known in the classical period of ancient Greece and Rome, when they were consciously called into being to watch over city states. He explores the egregore concept as it was understood in various Western Mystery traditions, including the Corpus Hermeticum, and offers further examples from Tibetan Buddhism, Islam, modern esoteric orders such as the Order of the Golden Dawn and Rosicrucianism, the writings of H. P. Lovecraft and Kenneth Grant, and the followers of Julius Evola and Aleister Crowley. The author discusses how, even as the fundamental principles of the egregore were forgotten, egregores continue to be formed, sometimes by accident. Stavish provides instructions on how to identify egregores, free yourself from a parasitic and destructive collective entity, and destroy an egregore, should the need arise. Revealing how egregores form the foundation of nearly all human interactions, the author shows how egregores have moved into popular culture and media--underscoring the importance of intense selectivity in the information we accept and the ways we perceive the world and our place in it.

The Secret Lives of Alexandra David-Neel A great esoteric tradition developed in the Himalayan fastnesses of the Tibetan plateau. Over centuries of isolation,
this unique culture investigated the mysteries of mind and magic to a degree never before attempted. Today, as Tibetan spirituality spreads across the world, the practices of Tibetan magic have scarcely been investigated by Western occultists. Occult Tibet presents this body of techniques, based partly on Tibetan Buddhist practice and partly on shamanic Bön (the aboriginal religion of Tibet). Learn about authentic Tibetan magical practices, including: tumo, the ability to stave off the cold by stimulating the chakras and energy channels of the body; light trance states to recall past lives; manipulation of energies via sound, rhythm, chanting, and drumming; and the spiritual practice of dream yoga. J. H. Brennan, respected author of numerous books on the Western Esoteric Tradition, has long been fascinated by Tibetan mysticism and magic. As the result of years of research, Occult Tibet brings the ancient magical techniques of Tibet to the magicians of the West. Winner of the 2003 Coalition of Visionary Resources (COVR) Award for Best Spirituality Book

Magic & Mysticism In Tibet Details the evolution of Tibetan Buddhism from the faith of a remote mountain people into a rapidly growing religion in the West, describing its appeal to disaffected Westerners and their adoption of the teachings of charismatic Tibetan lamas in exile. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

Magic and mystery in Tibet, introd

Re-enchantment The author describes her experiences during a fourteen-year stay in Tibet, as she studied and participated in the occult philosophies of mystics and magicians

The Power of Nothingness Tibetan Tale of Love and Magic is essentially the life story of a Tibetan highwayman around the beginning of this century, which he told to Alexandra David-Neel, prompted by the peculiar circumstances of their meeting. Although written in novel form, as the author explains in her preface, this is 'a true story, which has been lived'. Her straightforward reportage is both factual and fantastic and synonymous with the mysteries of Tibetan magic.

Tibetan Zen A fascinating exploration of the role that magic has played in the history of Buddhism As far back as we can see in the historical record, Buddhist monks and nuns have offered services including healing, divination, rain making, aggressive magic, and love magic to local clients. Studying this history, scholar Sam van Schaik concludes that magic and healing have played a key role in Buddhism's flourishing, yet they have rarely been studied in academic circles or by Western practitioners. The exclusion of magical practices and powers from most discussions of Buddhism in the modern era can be seen as part of the appropriation of Buddhism by Westerners, as well as an effect of modernization movements within Asian Buddhism. However, if we are to understand the way Buddhism has worked in the past, the way it still works now in many societies, and the way it can work in the future, we need to examine these overlooked aspects of Buddhist practice. In Buddhist Magic, van Schaik takes a book of spells and rituals--one of the earliest that has survived--from the Silk Road site of Dunhuang as the key reference point for discussing Buddhist magic in Tibet and beyond. After situating Buddhist magic within a cross-cultural history of world magic, he discusses sources of magic in Buddhist scripture, early Buddhist rituals of protection, medicine and the spread of
Buddhism, and magic users. Including material from across the vast array of Buddhist traditions, van Schaik offers readers a fascinating, nuanced view of a topic that has too long been ignored.

Rays of the Sun A practicing Buddhist and Oriental linguist recounts supernatural events she witnessed in Tibet during the 1920s. Intelligent and witty, she describes the fantastic effects of meditation and shamanic magic — levitation, telepathy, more. 32 photographs.

A Step Away from Paradise "The Mysteries Of Magic" is a 1927 work by A. E. Waite that explores the life and work of Éliphas Lévi Zahed (1810 - 1875), a French occult author and ceremonial magician. Arthur Edward Waite (1857 - 1942), more commonly referred to as A. E. Waite, was an American-born British mystic and poet. He wrote profusely on the subject of the occult and esoteric matters, and is famous for being the co-creator of the Rider-Waite Tarot deck. His work arguably constitutes the first attempt to systematically studying the history of western occultism, which he viewed more of a spiritual tradition than proto-science or pseudo-religion, as was the more common conception. Contents include: "Life of Alphonse Louis Constant", "Notes on the Mysteries of Magic as expounded in the Occult Philosophy of Eliphas Levi", "Threshold of Magical Science", "Doctrines of Occult Force", "Written Tradition of Magic", "Doctrine of Spiritual Essences, or Kabbalistic Pneumatics", "Ceremonial Magic", "Science of the Prophets", etc. Other works by this author include: "The Alchemical Writings of Edward Kelly" (1893), "Turba Philosphorum" (1894), and "Devil-Worship in France" (1896). Many vintage books such as this are increasingly scarce and expensive. It is with this in mind that we are republishing this volume now in an affordable, modern, high-quality edition complete with a specially-commissioned new biography of the author.

Buddhist Magic Recounts the life of the prolific author, inveterate explorer, pioneer feminist, and world authority on Tibetan Buddhist tantric rites

The Superhuman Life of Gesar of Ling

Another Mother Tongue A long time favorite of those interested in psychic phenomena and human potential. The author spent 14 years living in Tibet, one of the most beautiful and mysterious places on Earth. At the time, few westerners could penetrate into this strange and magical land. Alexandra David-Neel was a linguist, practicing Buddhist, and religious historian. She won the trust of Tibets most powerful lamas and magicians, and takes us on a personal odyssey of psychic discovery. Through the author, we are initiated into powerful meditations, breathing exercises, the control of body heat, visions, shamanic magic, and past life recollection. There are also tulpas, or disembodied thought forms, that can be created in human form using the power of the mindsomething David-Neel was able to perform. There is more to life than what is seen on the surface, and this important book is proof of that claim.

Forbidden Journey King Gesar, renowned throughout Tibet and Central Asia, represents the ideal warrior—the principle of all-victorious confidence. As the central force of sanity, he conquers all his enemies, the evil forces of the four directions, who turn people's minds away from the true teachings of Buddhism.
These enemies graphically represent the different manifestations of cowardly mind. As Chögyam Trungpa explains in the Foreword: "When we talk here about conquering our enemy, it is important to understand that we are not talking about aggression. The genuine warrior does not become resentful or arrogant. . . . It is absolutely necessary for the warrior to subjugate his own ambition to conquer at the same time that he is subjugating his other more obvious enemies. Thus the idea of warriorship altogether is that by facing all our enemies fearlessly, with gentleness and intelligence, we can develop ourselves thereby attaining self-realization." The legends of Gesar usually take weeks for a bard to recount. Filled with magic, adventure, and the triumphs of this great warrior-king, the stories will delight all—young and old alike.

Magic and Mystery in Tibet

Magic and Mystery in Tibet A groundbreaking study of the lost tradition of Tibetan Zen containing the first translations of key texts from one thousand years ago. Banned in Tibet, forgotten in China, the Tibetan tradition of Zen was almost completely lost to us. According to Tibetan histories, Zen teachers were invited to Tibet from China in the 8th century, at the height of the Tibetan Empire. When doctrinal disagreements developed between Indian and Chinese Buddhists at the Tibetan court, the Tibetan emperor called for a formal debate. When the debate resulted in a decisive win by the Indian side, the Zen teachers were sent back to China, and Zen was gradually forgotten in Tibet. This picture changed at the beginning of the 20th century with the discovery in Dunhuang (in Chinese Central Asia) of a sealed cave full of manuscripts in various languages dating from the first millennium CE. The Tibetan manuscripts, dating from the 9th and 10th centuries, are the earliest surviving examples of Tibetan Buddhism. Among them are around 40 manuscripts containing original Tibetan Zen teachings. This book translates the key texts of Tibetan Zen preserved in Dunhuang. The book is divided into ten sections, each containing a translation of a Zen text illuminating a different aspect of the tradition, with brief introductions discussing the roles of ritual, debate, lineage, and meditation in the early Zen tradition. Van Schaik not only presents the texts but also explains how they were embedded in actual practices by those who used them.

Magic and Mystery in Tibet First published in France in 1929, Magic and Mystery in Tibet tells the story of the author's experiences in Tibet, among lamas and magicians. Alexandra David-Neel's memoir offers an objective account of the supernatural events she witnessed during the 1920s among the mystics and hermits of Tibet—including levitation, telepathy, and the ability to walk on water! She tells of great sages and sorcerers that she met; of the system of monastic education; the great teachers and their disciples; Tibetan folklore about these spiritual athletes; reincarnation and memory from previous lives; elaborate magical rites to obtain enlightenment; the horrible necromantic magic of the pre-Buddhist Bonpa shamans; mental visualization exercises to create disembodied thought forms (tulpas); visions; phenomena of physical yoga, control of the body heat mechanism; breathing exercises; sending "messages on the wind"; and much similar material. An unusual aspect of her book is that she herself experienced many of the phenomena she describes, yet she describes them with precision and in a matter-of-fact manner, permitting the reader to draw his own conclusions about validity, interpretation in terms of
psychology, and value. Particularly interesting for the modern experiencer are her detailed instructions for tumo (the yoga of heat control) and creation of thought projections. This deluxe edition has all of the original photographs plus additional photos and maps, as well several introductions. Chapters include: Tibet and the Lamas; A Guest of the Lamas; A Famous Tibetan Monastery; Dealing with Ghosts and Demons, Disciples of Yore and their Contemporary Emulators; Psychic Sports; Mystic Theories and Spiritual Training; Psychic Phenomena in Tibet--How Tibetans Explain Them; more.

Seven Years in Tibet

Magic and Mystery in Tibet This unique biography explores the inner journey of a woman whose outer life was a thrilling story of passion and adventure. Alexandra David-Neel (1868–1969), born in Paris to a socially prominent family, once boasted, "I learned to run before I could walk!" In the course of a lifetime of more than one hundred years, she was an acclaimed operatic soprano, a political anarchist, a religious reformer, an intrepid explorer who traveled in Tibet for fourteen years, a scholar of Buddhism, and the author of more than forty books. But perhaps the most intriguing of all her adventures was the spiritual search that led her from a youthful interest in socialism and Freemasonry to the teachings of the great sages of India and culminated in her initiation into the secret tantric practices of Tibetan Buddhism. This book reveals the penetrating insight and courage of a woman who surmounted physical, intellectual, and social barriers to pursue her spiritual quest.

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