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CHAPTER 1 REJECTION AND RECONCILIATION; REJECTION: THE PRINCE IN THE WOMEN'S QUARTERS; RECONCILIATION: THE ASCETIC AND THE

REQUISITE OF ENLIGHTENMENT; PART II Parents and Procreation; CHAPTER 2 MOTHERS AND SONS; QUEEN MAYA; Conception and Birth Images; Trayastrimsa Heaven; SYAMA JATAKA; SONS SAVING MOTHERS;

QUEEN CAMA; MOTHERS AND COMPASSION

CHAPTER 3 MEDICAL EXCURSUSCHAPTER 4 FATHERS AND HEIRS; KING

SUDDHODANA; BUDDHA AS FATHER; TIBET; Male Lineage; PART III Sexualities; CHAPTER 5 WIVES AND HUSBANDS; THE WIVES OF THE

BUDDHA; Jataka Wives; Dreams of Buddha's Wives; THE

SAUNDARANANDA; POSITIVE IMAGES OF WIVES; CHAPTER 6 SOUTH

ASIAN COURTESANS: SEXUAL CATEGORIES: DEVADASIS: MALE

COURTESANS; TRANSITIONS; CHAPTER 7 COURTESANS IN BUDDHIST LITERATURE; SYAMA JATAKA; AMRAPALI; THE MANIMEKHALAI; THE

DECEPTION OF THE BODY; CHAPTER 8 TANTRIC CONSORTS: INTRODUCTION; IMAGES AND PRACTICES; MAHASIDDHAS; CHAPTER 9 TANTRIC CONSORTS: TIBET

PADMASAMBHAVAYESHE TSOGYEL AND MANDARAVA; TERTONS; YID THOGMA; MILAREPA; MACHIG LAPDRON; CHAPTER 10 THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN; NANGSA'S STORY; CHAPTER 11 WOMEN, MEN, AND IMPURITY; FEMALE SEXUALITY AND POLLUTION; THE INSTABILITY OF MASCULINITY; CHAPTER 12 SEX CHANGE; FEMALE TO MALE STORIES; MALE TO FEMALE STORIES; KARMA; CHAPTER 13 OTHER LANDS/OTHER REALITIES; THE BUDDHIST UNIVERSE; LANDS OF WOMEN; Hells for Women; PURE LANDS; Without Women; With Women; CONCLUSION; BIBLIOGRAPHY; INDEX

Sommario/riassunto

The wisest teachings of Buddhism say that, like all oppositions, one must move beyond gender. But as Serinity Young shows in this enlightening work, the rhetoric of Buddhist texts, the symbolism of its iconography, and the performative import of its rituals, tell different, and often contradictory, stories. In Courtesans and Tantric Consorts, Serinity Young takes the reader on a journey through more than 2000 years of biographical writings, iconographic depictions, and ritual practices revealing Buddhism's deep struggles with gender.Juxtaposing empowering images of women with thei