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of Vedic Hymns: Generating Auspiciousness -- Reciting the Hymns (Suktas) -- Ritual Application of the Vedic Hymns -- CHAPTER 5: The Power of Puranic Songs: Drawing Down the Goddess -- Reciting the Songs of Praise (Stotras) -- The Propitious Glance of the Goddess -- Fruits of the Recitations (Phala) -- CHAPTER 6: The Power of Tantric Songs: Waking Up the Goddess -- Alchemy of the Goddess: The Magic of Transformation -- The Potency of a Woman's Recitations -- Literary Genres of the Tantric Songs -- Structure of the Tantric Songs -- PART THREE: Ceremony -- INTRODUCTION: Invoking Laksmi in Ceremony: Laksmi Puja -- Creating Space to Receive the Goddess. The Ancient Art of Hospitality -- Structure of the Ceremony -- Laksmi Puja Text -- Preparation and Purification -- Heart of the Ceremony: Receiving the Goddess -- Outline of the Laksmi Puja -- PART FOUR: Song -- Vedic Hymns to Laksmi -- Hymn to Sri(Sri Suktam) -- Hymn to Laksmi(Laksmi Suktam) -- Puranic Songs to Laksmi -- Song for Laksmi, Gracious Bestower of Blessings (Prasannavarada Sri Laksmi Stotram) -- Song for the Glorious Lotus Goddess (Sri Kamala Stotram) -- Lord Indra's Song for Laksmi (Devaraja Indrakrta Laksmi Stotram) -- The Heavenly Gods' Praise-Song for Laksmi (Sri Daivakrta Laksmi Stotram) -- Eight Verses Praising Mahalaksmi (Mahalaksmystakam Stotram) -- Tantric Songs to Laksmi -- The Secret Heart of Laksmi (Sri Mahalaksmi Hridayam) -- Praise-Song for the Bestower of Wealth(Dhanada Stotram) -- Song-Amulet of the Bestower of Wealth (Dhanada Kavacam) -- Praise-Song for the Lotus Goddess (Kamala Stotram) -- 108 Names of the Glorious Lotus Goddess (Sri Kamala Astottarasatanama Stotram) -- Song-Amulet of the Lotus Goddess (Kamalatmika Kavacam) -- Song for the Laksmi of Spiritual Power(Sri Siddhalaksmi Stotram) -- Song for the Glorious "Eyes of Indra" (Sri Indraksi Stotram) -- Song-Formulary of the Glorious Mahalaksmi (Sri Mahalaksmi Panjara Stotram) -- Secret Laksmi Incantation That Yields Immediate Results (Sadyah Phalada Laksmistava Hridayam) -- EPILOGUE: The Goddess Returns Home -- Transliterated Sanskrit Texts -- Laksmi Puja Text -- Vedic Texts -- Puranic Texts -- Tantric Texts -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

A multi-faceted portrait of Lakshmi, Hindu goddess of wealth and prosperity. Includes translations of verses used to invoke this goddess.
