

THE LEGEND OF THE GREAT STUPA

Adapted for the screen by

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Based on The Legend of the Great Stupa

By

Guru Padmasambhava
&
Wisdom Dakini Yeshe Tsogyal

1 BLACK. TITLE CARD: 1

Emaho!

Dharmakaya Amitabha, Boundless Light,
Sambhogakaya Mahakarunika, the Great Compassionate One,
Nirmanakaya Padmakara, the Lotus-Born –
Three kaya lineage gurus, to you I pay homage!

2 EXT. BOUDHANATH STUPA - DAY - AERIAL 2

Above the Boudhanath Stupa, the epic mandala visible.

NARRATOR

This is the story of the Great
Jarung Kashor Stupa, support for
the dharmakaya, indivisible from
the wisdom-mind of all Buddhas and
bodhisattvas, in all the ten
directions, past, present and still
to come.

3 EXT. SAMYE MONASTERY - DAY - AERIAL 3

The monastery's grand splendor on full display. Rainbow
lights gleam and bound as the sun shines over the Himalayas.

TITLE:

Tibet, ~9th Century, The Great Monastery of Glorious Samye,
the Unchanging, Spontaneously Accomplished.

We zoom into...

4 INT/EXT. SAMYE - GRAND DOORWAY - DOLLY IN 4

Approaching the grand door, flowing through the halls and up
the stairs to the middle floor.

TITLE:

On the Tenth Day of the Monkey month of the Male Fire Monkey
year, in the middle floor of the great monastery of Glorious
Samye, the Unchanging, Spontaneously Accomplished, a grand
empowerment for The Guru's Utterly Secret Heart Practice was
being conferred to the Dharma King and the twenty-five
disciples.

5 INT. SAMYE - MIDDLE FLOOR

5

A large, empty throne of nine brocade cushions. Beautiful shrines with offerings of butter lamps, sense offerings, chokhor hanging down, and the colors of the five elements abounding. In front of the throne, turquoise, five measures of gold dust, seven gold bricks, one hundred bolts of fine silk, and countless other goods and enjoyments are laid out for the Three Jewels and the inseparable Guru. King Trisong Detsen and the Twenty-Five Disciples kneel on the floor before the empty throne, hands anjali.

KING AND DISCIPLES

Precious Guru, inseparable from the Three Jewels and Three Roots, to you we offer our bodies, speech, and minds, all our activity and all our merits, we confess our sins, rejoice in the good deeds of others, request you to turn the wheel of sublime dharma, to stay in this world and teach us for as long as possible that we might attain full and complete omniscient Buddhahood for the benefit of all sentient beings who have been our mothers throughout beginningless-endless time, and dedicate all our merits to their happiness and enlightenment. Please sit upon this seat of nine cushions and teach us that we might ripen our minds.

6 INT. SAMYE - MIDDLE FLOOR - MOMENTS LATER

6

The Mahaguru Padmasambhava takes his seat on the nine cushions in the posture of royal play. Attending disciples offer Him a golden goblet filled with wine and uncover plates of food offerings - a grand ganachakra feast. They then offer him the turquoise pieces.

King Trisong Detsen approaches the Mahaguru, kneels, and removes his own royal turquoise necklace.

KING TRISONG DETSEN

Most splendiferous Great Guru, lord
of all mandalas and Buddha
families, lantern of Dharma for
suffering beings who have never
seen the light of Buddha nature, as
your radiance dispels the ignorance
of sentient beings, I offer this
perfect royal turquoise necklace
named Radiant Lamp so beings may
understand symbolically.

King Trisong Detsen prostrates himself one hundred times as
the Mahaguru's ganachakra continues. Dakinis dance in the
shrine room, enjoyments beyond measure abound. The King
kneels again.

KING TRISONG DETSEN (CONT'D)

O, Great Master! Though born in
this uncivilized country of Tibet,
land of red-faced demons, I have
succeeded in inviting Abbot
Bodhisattva of the Land of Zahor,
and the scholar Padmakara of the
Land of Uddiyana, both of whom are
genuine nirmanakaya emanations. In
accordance with my solemn vow, we
have completed this support for
beings to gather merit - a
residence for the Three Precious
Jewels, this great monastery of
Glorious Samye, the Unchanging,
Spontaneously Accomplished, which
is unrivaled by any in southern
Jambudvipa! Now this uncivilized
land of Tibet, which was like a
darkened isle, sees the teachings
of the Three Jewels spreading like
the rising sun upon the snow-capped
mountains.

The King presses his hands together, tears welling in his
eyes.

KING TRISONG DETSEN (CONT'D)

Pray, tell us how this golden age
has come to pass, and when era all
beings listen to and expound the
holy Dharma, just like in the
central land of Magadha. If you
tell us how this present age is the
fruition of our past aspirations,
then confidence, faith and
inspiration will grow.

(MORE)

KING TRISONG DETSEN (CONT'D)

Please, then, recount this for us
in great detail!

The Mahaguru looks directly upon the King, his wrathful eyes
dazzling and dynamic.

MAHAGURU

Oh, Great King, listen carefully
and remember it all!

7 INT. SAMYE - MIDDLE FLOOR 7

Everything becomes rainbow light and transitions into a
single dot.

MAHAGURU (V.O.)

What follows is the history of the
Great Jarung Kashor Stupa.

8 The dot disappears to BLACK. From black, title: 8

CHAPTER ONE - CONSTRUCTION & CONSECRATION

Title dissolves and becomes a RED HRIH, shining rays in all
ten directions, which become...

9 EXT. POTALA PALACE 9

The Grand Potala Palace of Avalokitesvara, situated on top of
Potalaka Mountain in the Land of Great Bliss. Avalokitesvara
sits in the garden, upon a lotus throne in meditative
equipoise and reciting 'OM MANI PADME HUM' as spontaneous
dharma melodies echo the six syllables and rainbows emanate
out from the six syllables in his heart lotus.

MAHAGURU (V.O.)

Countless eons ago, beyond measure,
the Bodhisattva, the Mahasattva,
Noble Avalokitesvara made an
aspiration in the presence of the
Tathagata Amitabha - to liberate
all beings from the swamps of
cyclic existence. After rescuing
countless wandering beings from
samsara's ocean, he arose from
meditation, thinking -

Avalokitesvara arises from meditation...

AVALOKITESVARA

Now there's not a single sentient
being left.

And looks out across the vast expanse...

MAHAGURU (V.O.)

But when he looked out, he saw that the beings of the six realms hadn't lessened in number at all: they were numerous as the left-over grains at the bottom of a brewing cask.

His eyes gleaming with a rainbow light, Avalokitesvara's divine vision:

10 EXT. VAST EXPANSE 10

Trichiliochosms of Mt. Merus filled with sentient beings arise in the vast expanse.

11 EXT. POTALA PALACE 11

Avalokitesvara is shocked by his vision.

AVALOKITESVARA

I must be completely incapable of rescuing beings from the ocean of samsara!

MAHAGURU (V.O.)

He began to cry.

Avalokitesvara cries one tear from each eye, wipes them away with his ring finger.

MAHAGURU (V.O.)

Wiping a tear with each of his ring fingers, he flicked them away with the prayer -

AVALOKITESVARA

In the future, may these two tears benefit wandering beings!

12 INT. TRAYATRIMSA, HEAVEN OF THE THIRTY-THREE 12

Indra holds Indrani's hand as she gives birth. Twin daughters, goddesses.

MAHAGURU (V.O.)

Indra, the King of Gods, had two daughters, royal goddesses born to him by the names of Purna and Apurna.

13 EXT. TRAYATRIMSA - UDUMVARA GARDEN 13

Purna and Apurna, older now but still children, run through the udumvara garden of divine blue lotus flowers, playing, but stop as Apurna is captivated by the beauty of one particular udumvara. She reaches out -

MAHAGURU (V.O.)
But Apurna transgressed the
impeccable law of the Heaven of the
Thirty-Three by stealing a divine
flower.

And picks it.

14 INT. TRAYATRIMSA PALACE - THRONE ROOM 14

Indra banishes Apurna.

MAHAGURU (V.O.)
And so was cast down...

The floor opens up and becomes space. Apurna falls through.

15 EXT. BARDO 15

Apurna falls through a vast space of rainbow light. Apurna becomes a red and white seed as she falls to...

16 EXT. SPACE - EARTH 16

Apurna's white and red essence veers towards Nepal.

MAHAGURU (V.O.)
And she landed in the human realm.

Apurna's white and red essence hit the ground with a FLASH TO WHITE.

GOLD TITLE FADES IN FROM WHITE:

THE LEGEND OF THE GREAT STUPA

(COMING SOON WITH YOUR SUPPORT)

END OF TEASER ANIMATION.