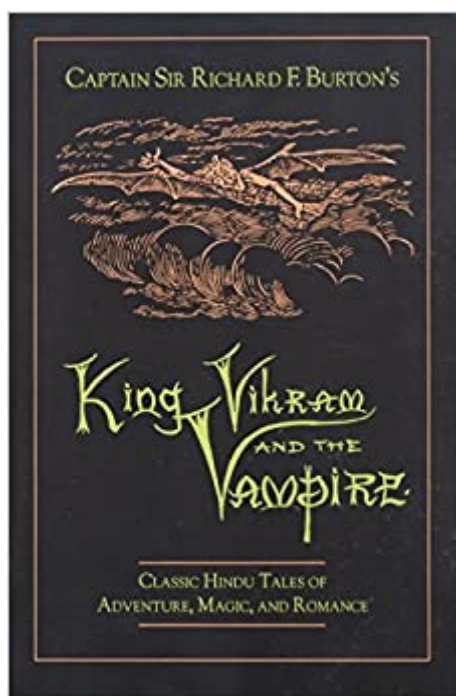


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King Vikram And The Vampire: Classic Hindu Tales Of Adventure, Magic, And Romance



Synopsis

Translated from the original Sanskrit by the noted Victorian Orientalist, Sir Richard Burton, these ancient Indian folk tales influenced such later works as 1001 Arabian Nights and Boccaccio's Decameron. As revealing today as they were in their own time, these stories will entertain and delight modern readers while illuminating the life and customs of classical India. This reprint from the 1893 limited edition contains 34 black-and-white illustrations, including the frontispiece designed especially for that edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Witty, entertaining, and illuminating of traditional Indian culture. The book will enrich the library of yoga students interested in exploring the mythic background in which yoga philosophy developed."

(Yoga Journal)"If you have the time to read for pure entertainment, pick up this volume. First published in 1870, and reprinted with illustrations from the 1893 edition of King Vikram and the Vampire, we have a centennial edition here that is highly recommended to everyone. Delightful Hindu fairy stories, which also contain much interesting information on Indian customs and manners from ages past." (Hinduism Today)

LITERATURE / HINDUISM FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1870, these witty and spirited legends established the literary foundations for the Arabian Nights. The tales first appeared in Sanskrit as the Baitalâ 'Pachisi, a collection of Hindu stories told by the baital (a vampire or mischievous spirit).

They center on the adventures of the great King Vikram--the King Arthur of the East--who has promised delivery of the vampire to a magician. Pulling the vampire out of a tree, Vikram stuffs him in a sack and sets off on his journey. But the loquacious baital has his own designs and proceeds to instruct the king with a series of tales of the deception, villainy, and folly of human beings. As revealing today as they were in their own time, these stories will entertain and delight modern readers while illuminating the life and customs of classical India. This reprint from the 1893 limited edition contains 34 black-and-white illustrations, including the frontispiece designed especially for that edition. Orientalist, prolific author, and traveler-explorer, SIR RICHARD F. BURTON (1821-1890) was one of the most remarkable and controversial men of his century. He is famous as the translator of The 1001 Arabian Nights, the Kama Sutra, the Ananga-Ranga, and the Perfumed Garden.

Required reading for class but found it to be quite convenient to have it on my Samsung Galaxy Note Pad. Great book. Interesting stories.

I'm writing this review because I am frankly appalled that one doesn't already exist. Firstly, any fan of folk tales in their original form should put this on their reading list immediately. By "original form" I mean not "sanitized" or "disneyized". If you have already read Sir Richard Burton's 1001 Nights and enjoyed that then you will like this. It is beautiful, funny, tragic, suspenseful and informative. If you love this kind of literature may I also recommend Wendy Doniger's amazing rendering of selections from the Rig Veda.

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