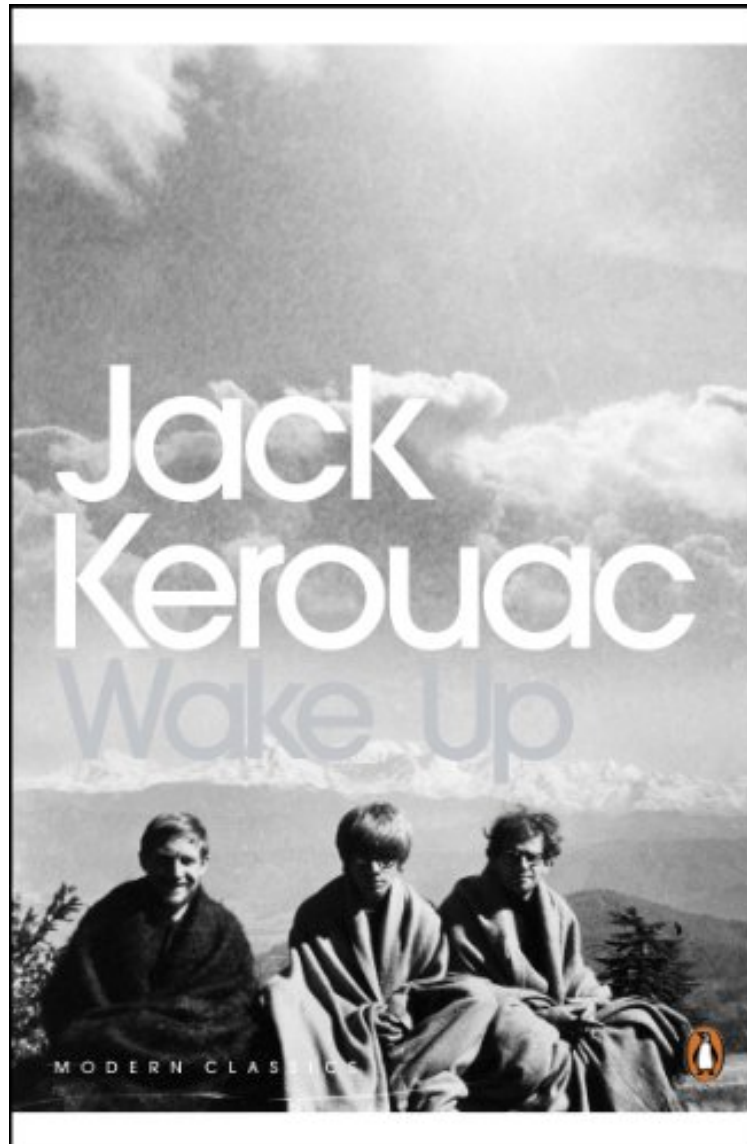


[Mobile pdf] Wake Up: A Life of the Buddha (Penguin Modern Classics)

Wake Up: A Life of the Buddha (Penguin Modern Classics)

Von Jack Kerouac

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Von Jack Kerouac : Wake Up: A Life of the Buddha (Penguin Modern Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wake Up: A Life of the Buddha (Penguin Modern Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Flow of Consiousness, Spellbinding WritingVon James Gallen"Wake Up" is Jack Kerouac's biography of the Buddha cum study of Buddhist teaching. The writing style is typical Kerouac, a non-stop stream of consciousness. Kerouac does an

excellent job of seamlessly blending details of the life of Prince Siddhartha Gotama, the original Buddha, with his first person teaching. Much of the book consists of the Buddha instructing his followers and, through the pages, us. As I was going through this book I was comparing it to other works with which I am familiar. At times, the concepts of selflessness bring to mind the tenets of Christianity. At other times, the repetitive nature of the Buddha's teaching is reminiscent of "Gilgamesh." I found this book to be an attention holding introduction into the nature and teachings of Buddhism. I found it an interesting way to learn, but did not find much to recommend itself in that religion. I think that the most attractive facet of this book is Kerouac's writing, the constant flow from one thought to another, always entrancing, always holding your interest. I find that Kerouac's writing (see my review of "On The Road") to be spellbinding! For that I recommend this book.

Kurzbeschreibung Never before published in Kerouac's lifetime, this 1955 biography of the founder of Buddhism is a clear and powerful study of Siddhartha Gautama's life and works. *Wake Up* recounts the story of Prince Siddhartha's royal upbringing and his father's wish to protect him from all human suffering, despite a prediction that he would become a great holy man in later life. Departing from his father's palace, Siddhartha adopts a homeless life, struggles with his meditations, and eventually finds Enlightenment. Written at the end of Kerouac's career, when he became increasingly interested in Buddhist teachings, and collected for the first time in one book, this fresh and accessible biography is both an important addition to Kerouac's work and a valuable introduction to the world of Buddhism itself. From Publishers Weekly In 1958, Kerouac published his groundbreaking novel *The Dharma Bums*, which met with great acclaim and has since been heralded as the opening salvo of an indigenous American Buddhism. This fall, Viking is repackaging that novel in a 50th-anniversary edition while also releasing Kerouac's unsung and long-forgotten tale of the Buddha's life, published in book form for the first time. The titular theme of "wake up" is rehearsed throughout Kerouac's story of Prince Siddhartha Gotama, who left an indolent but meaningless life of riches to embrace asceticism and enlightenment. Drawing on multiple sutras and accounts of the Buddha's life, Kerouac focuses on Gotama's renunciation of worldly things by repeating that trope with several other wealthy characters who forsake riches in favor of nirvana. The prose is as meandering as it is beautiful, with Kerouac's Buddha spouting memorable sayings about sensation, illusion, emptiness and suffering. If there is an almost evangelistic zeal to this loose collection of axioms and Buddhist conversion stories, Kerouac at least states that openly: "The purpose is to convert," he explains at the outset. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Pressestimmen ["Wake Up"] contributes significantly to the fascinating picture of Kerouac's spirituality." - Jonah Raskin, "The Beat "