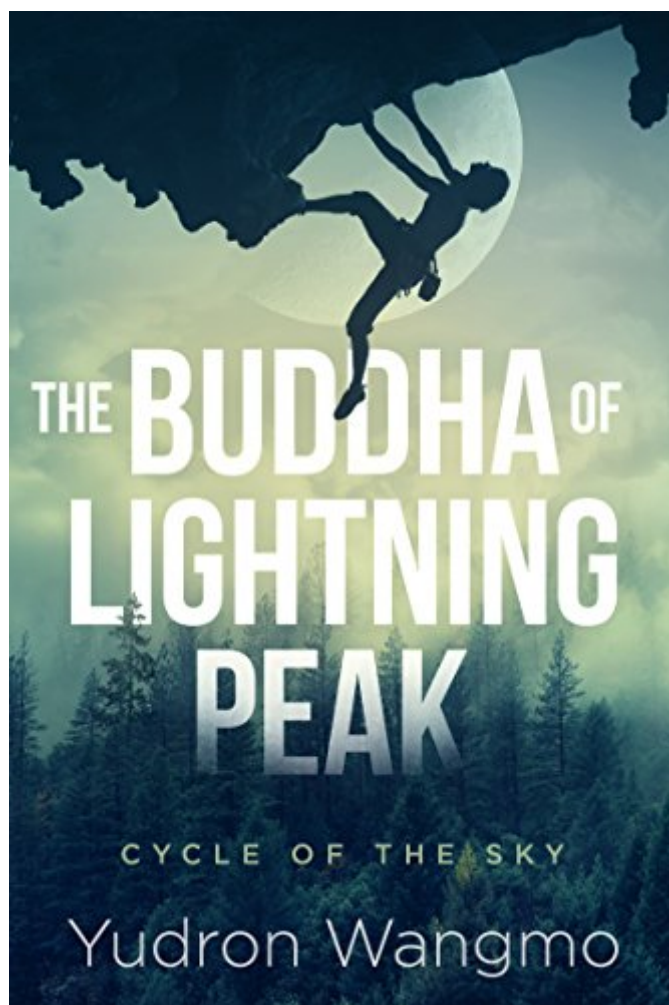


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# The Buddha Of Lightning Peak (Cycle Of The Sky Book 2)



## Synopsis

Sometimes it seems like no one has seventeen-year-old Dee Adair's back. She's got enough stress dealing with her little bro being locked up, a heartless homophobic grandmother, and an ex-girlfriend who gives her trouble every time they cross paths. Now, sacred Lightning Peak her only place of peace is scheduled for destruction. Bulldozers and dynamite are poised to excavate the mine, massacring the animals who live there in the process. Matrika Shergill, the mine's hot no-nonsense owner, couldn't care less about the furry little darlings. Dee must find the inner strength from her meditation practice to weather violence and betrayal and harness the power of friendship if she is to save Lightning Peak. Discouraged by apathetic adults, pursued by murderous goons, inspired by a sage, and yearning for love, she presses onward. The Buddha of Lightning Peak forges the transformational journey of an imperfect African-American lesbian teen lit up by the heroic promise to help all living things no matter what.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Yudron Wangmo's *The Buddha of Lightning Peak* had me hooked immediately. Her teenaged protagonist, Dee Adair ( "Don't call me Denise!" ) is spirited, struggling to be spiritual and practice Buddhism, funny, feisty and passionate about *Lightning Peak*. In love with the Y Camp at the base of the peak, in this second book of a series, Dee discovers that her beloved mountain is up for open pit mining, and starts one of her many journeys in the story, this one to try to save the mountain and its creatures. Yudron Wangmo explores her character's struggles with hostile family ( "Your mother let you dress like a bulldagger these days?" ), a beloved brother in juvie, explorations of Buddhist meditation and practice in a quick-moving, engaging and entertaining tale. Dee tells her story as only a spirited and jaded teenager can, alternately Any Teenager and very much her own person. I loved it. (Adult Reader)

This is the second volume in a series of novels from the perspective of American young women who are studying Buddhism. The protagonist incorporates her practice in her life and has many issues to contend with in this fast-paced novel.

"breaking through into a whole different frame of mind ... and staying there always and forever" showing US how, too.

I loved Yudron Wangmo's first book *Excavating Pema Ozer (Cycle of the Sky)* (Volume 1) and impatiently waiting for the second installment of this series. I was not disappointed! *The Buddha of Lightning Peak*'s hero, Dee Adair, is feisty, stubborn, and unstoppable. She is also real. Yudron Wangmo draws characters that realistically portrays their flaws as well as their strengths. Dee isn't perfect, but I love her motivation. We are given a wonderful view of how she thinks through her choices and reconsiders her decisions if they turn out not to be optimal. A lesser writer could make this sound preachy, but in the case it seems very natural and realistic. The story is wonderfully engaging -- I stayed up way too late reading! I can't wait for book #3!

A lot of authors, agents and publishers say their story is "unique", but rarely does the tale turn out to be that different or "special". *The Buddha of Lightning Peak* is an exception. The characters in the story are like many people I know, and experiences they have lived, but I've never read something that combined them all into one tight, believable and well-crafted novel such as this. Denise

Dee is a teenager who lives in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is also black, lesbian and part of a meditation group. She has a variety of friends, including Leslie and her BFF, Shanti, as well as her mentor/teacher, Sandy. She isn't a strong environmental advocate, until she learns of a mining operation about to start up next to her beloved summer camp and mountain. The author reveals life through Dee's eyes and perspective, and reveals the thoughts, emotions and experiences that many teens go through, especially teenage girls. The Buddha of Lightning Peak is an insightful and entertaining story that reveals Dee coming into her own strength, realizations, and sense of connection and community. I rarely read stories twice, even good ones. This will be the exception. (The author provided me with a free ebook in exchange for an honest review.)

I've known the author for some time, as a committed Buddhist practitioner, but not as a novelist. I was given a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. I really enjoyed "The Buddha of Lightning Peak." It is contemporary in voice, and the characters are well-developed-especially the first person narrator, my new friend "Dee." Yudron deals with Buddhism, especially of the Tibetan variety, as well as with issues of race, gender, sexual orientation, and environmental concerns, in honest, unflinching, and genuine ways, as reflected through the voice of her main character, and without being pedantic or "preachy" in the slightest. All of these elements figure in the plot, but this is a novel--it is a story, first and foremost, and the plot is captivating, with several twists I honestly did not see coming. It's a captivating read, and feels like a true story, a reflection of our Northern California humanity and an optimistic and positive piece of writing--something often lacking these days. Thanks, Yudron! I'm going to go back and read the first one, and look forward to the next!

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