



The Ramayana: A New Retelling of Valmiki's Ancient Epic--Complete and Comprehensive (Tarcher Cornerstone Editions)

By Linda Egenes, Kumuda Reddy

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A delightfully straightforward and lyrical retelling of the ancient Indian epic of loyalty, betrayal, redemption, and insight into the true nature of life -- one of history's most sacred ethical works, rendered with completeness and sterling accuracy for the modern reader.

Here is one of the world's most hallowed works of sacred literature, the grand, sweeping epic of the divine bowman and warrior Rama and his struggles with evil, power, duplicity, and avarice. *The Ramayana* is one of the foundations of world literature and one of humanity's most ancient and treasured ethical and spiritual works. Includes an introduction by scholar Michael Sternfeld.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This new version is so simply and beautifully written -- it will stir the soul!"

—**David Lynch**

"A luminous new rendering of an epic that remains as relevant as it is timeless." —**Craig Pearson, author of *The Supreme Awakening***

"This retelling of the Ramayana is an impressive compilation, beautifully narrated, mingled with thoughtful poetic expressions both original and modern. A retelling for all times, it stays true to the original Valmiki Ramayana, and its exalted execution by Egenes and Reddy sounds natural to the ear for modern readers."

—**Bal Ram Singh, Ph.D., Director, Center for Indic Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, and author of *Exploring Science in Ancient Indian Texts***

"At last! A retelling of Valmiki's Ramayana that understands and expresses the role of consciousness in thought, speech, and action. This elegantly written version is the one to read." —**Rhoda Orme-Johnson, Ph.D., co-author of *The Flow of Consciousness***

"The age-old Sanskrit epic poem, *The Ramayana*, animates timeless themes of good and evil through the story of Rama's journey. Reimagined by Linda Egenes and Kumuda Reddy, this vernacular prose retelling features narrative clarity, richly textured imagery, and a luminous storytelling voice that leaps off the page. This is a treasure that begs to be read out loud." —**Hertha D. Sweet Wong, Ph.D., assistant chair of the English Department at the University of California, Berkeley, and author of *Sending My Heart Back Across the Years: Tradition and Innovation in Native American Autobiography***

"In this wonderful newly abridged adaptation by Linda Egenes and Kumuda Reddy, the *Ramayana* takes on new life. Egenes and Reddy have given us a text that is lucid and lyrical, eminently readable, and will make a fine addition to libraries and classrooms." —**Steven Schneider, professor of English at University of Texas-Pan American and editor of *The Contemporary Narrative Poem: Critical Crosscurrents***

"*The Ramayana* is one of the great treasures of mankind. It tells a gripping story but it is very long and it is in Sanskrit. Linda Egenes and Kumuda Reddy have retold the story at manageable length in beautiful English and they have kept the dramatic tension, which makes the reader want to read on. I know the story well but I could not wait to see what came next. Well done." —**Vernon Katz, Ph.D., author of *Conversations with Maharishi***

"This eminently readable and poetic retelling by Linda Egenes and Kumuda Reddy captures the flavor of the ancient text, brings out philosophical and spiritual truths sometimes glossed over by modern translators, and flows so smoothly it is hard to put down. — **Jack Forem, author of *Transcendental Meditation: The Essential Teachings of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi***

"Rama, Sita and Lakshmana are resplendent in our minds and ensconced in our hearts as we traverse the beauty, tragedy, and adventure of the Ramayana in this elegant retelling of the classic." —**Saraswati Nagpal, author of *Sita, Daughter of the Earth***

"Perhaps the best modern retelling to date, this version by Egenes and Reddy is true to Valmiki's text yet

keeps you turning the pages. Will be appreciated by adults and children, Indian and Western audiences alike.” —**Chandrika Tandon, Grammy nominee and founder of Soul Chants Music**

“This lovely and sensitive adaptation of the Ramayana is easy and enjoyable to read without losing the deeper layers of insight that make the story timeless. I heartily recommend it!” —**Prudence Farrow Bruns, Ph.D. in South Asian Studies, University of California Berkeley, and author of *Dear Prudence: The Story Behind the Song***

“In this new prose translation of the Ramayana, Linda Egenes and Kumuda Reddy maintain the cadence and richness of language of the original poetic epic. Their retelling is marvelously accessible to the modern reader, adding a welcome freshness to this timeless tale. Furthermore, Sternfeld’s introduction provides a new dimension to understanding the depth and breadth of this universal story.” —**Care Connet, poet and author of *Diary of the White Bush Clover: A Peace Pilgrimage***

“These authors portray Vedic life in its larger and deeper context, bringing out the nobility of the heroic action of the characters. It is beautifully written, suitable for all ages, and keeps the reader engaged. By the end I was moved to tears.” —**Susan Andersen, Ph.D., co-author of *The Flow of Consciousness***

About the Author

Linda Egenes is the author of more than five hundred articles and five books about the benefits of meditation, yoga, and healthy living. With Kumuda Reddy, M.D., she co-authored three books on Maharishi Ayurveda for children and families, as well as *All Love Flows to the Self: Eternal Stories from the Upanishads*. A practitioner of the Transcendental Meditation technique since 1971 and certified teacher since 1975, Linda is adjunct associate professor of writing at Maharishi University of Management in Fairfield, Iowa, where she lives with her husband, Sanskrit scholar and author Thomas Egenes, Ph.D.

Kumuda Reddy, M.D., a former faculty member and anesthesiologist at Albany Medical College, practiced Western medicine in the United States for more than twenty-five years. After receiving her training in Maharishi Ayurveda, she dedicated herself to bringing its medical and wellness knowledge into her private practice. Dr. Reddy has co-authored eight books on Maharishi Āyurveda and a series of children's stories called the *Timeless Wisdom Series*, based on traditional Indian tales that she first heard as a child. Dr. Reddy and her husband, Dr. Janardhan Reddy, divide their time between the U.S. and India.

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