

Bodhi Stand Presents

Upasika Lin Kuo Le

CONTEMPLATING THE LIGHT OF SELF-MASTERY IS THE VENERABLE ONE IN WHITE.
TRANSFORMATIONS WITHOUT END, COME FROM WONDERFUL SPIRITUAL POWERS.
RESCUING ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE WITHOUT REST DAY AND NIGHT,
HE IS ALWAYS FEARFUL LEST SOME BEING FALLS IN THE PIT OF FIRE.

Lin Kuo-le was brought up in Hong Kong, in a Christian family and school. From her youth she had visions of another world of sages and Bodhisattvas, which attested to her good roots gained from cultivation of the Buddhadharma in lives past. Like many people with wholesome inclinations, she discovered a natural affinity with Kuan Shih Yin Bodhisattva from a very young age. Below is her account of meeting with the Bodhisattva:

It was winter, 1975, two months after my second son was born, and the child was healthy. One night, between sleeping and waking, I experienced this trance-like state: I was strolling in our garden and came upon the gentle slope of a hill. Suddenly, out of nowhere arose a sealike profusion of colored clouds, somewhat like what one hears about in the Arabian nights. A sagely personage appeared before me--large, radiant, all dressed in white. She was adorned and pure, surrounded in dazzling aura. I asked her, "Are you Kuan Yin Bodhisattva?"

She beamed at me and started to speak in a tongue which was not my native language. Only much later when I started to chant the Great Compassion Mantra did I realize that this was the dialect that Kuan Yin Bodhisattva spoke on that day. I guess it must be some

type of ancient Sanskrit, or a dialect from the Brahma Heavens. However, although Kuan Yin Bodhisattva spoke to me in that foreign dialect, I could understand her perfectly well. She said "Yes, I am Kuan Yin."

Then out of the blue, I asked her, "Will my second son die?"

She waved her hand and said, "No, your son will grow up to be a very strong boy, do not worry. Both your sons will grow up to be fine persons. Now that I have appeared before you, everyone in your family will constantly be blessed by my protection." And then, from within the blue-white aura that was all around Kuan Yin, there appeared a four-line verse written in gold light, right in empty space! The verse said,

In the perfumed lotus grove, receive this gift Of deep kindness.

With famous talented sons you'll be blessed, and with the silk cordon of office as well.

From now on awesome reputation as high as a mountain will be yours.

With a bright future, one ascends to the summit.

I was awestruck at this point, and started yelling for my husband to come and see Kuan Yin Bodhisattva. The next thing I knew, someone was pushing me very hard...it was indeed my husband, who had been awakened from my loud talking. He asked me, "What did you see?" and I told him of my experience in great detail.

Thinking back on my childhood, the nurse who brought me up encouraged me to worship Kuan Yin. But since I was young, and wasn't given the proper instructions, my attitude was less than sincere or respectful. Many years later, after my father-in-law had just passed away, as I kept on seeing him appear in my dreams--implying that his spirit wasn't resting in peace--I went and asked my old nurse where I could make the proper form of worship. She took me to the Buddhist Lecture Hall at Happy Valley--the Bodhimanda established by the Venerable Abbot in the early 1960's. After offering up a rebirth plaque on behalf of my father-in-law, and paying respects there in the proper manner, his spirit no longer appeared in my dreams.

In the winter of 1978, exactly three years after Kuan Yin Bodhisattva appeared to me, one warm afternoon our entire family was sunning out in the garden, and all of a sudden, right at the spot where Kuan Yin had manifested, suddenly I saw my younger son slip and fall down the hill into the gully below. The momentum of the fall was so great that it shocked my husband. He thought that our son might have died from the impact. In a few seconds, before we could Manage to climb down the hill, loud cries from the boy rang out--to our great relief. My husband climbed down the slope and carried the child back up. The fall was so serious that it had ope ned a large hole in the boy's forehead. There was a deep cut of about 2 inches long and the skull was exposed, but fortunately not fractured. We went immediately to the hospital, and nine stitches were needed to close the wound. No inflammation or other adverse effects developed; within a week the boy was almost as good as new. It was an inconceivable response! Now even my husband believes, and keeps on urging me to offer incense to Kuan Yin Bodhisattva."

BECAUSE OF HEARING AND CONSIDERATION, I ESCAPED THE SIX DEFILING OBJECTS, JUST AS A SOUND LEAPS OVER A WALL WITHOUT HINDRANCE, SO I HAVE THE WONDERFUL ABILITY TO MANIFEST SHAPE AFTER SHAPE, AND RECITE MANTRA UPON MANTRA. THESE SHAPES AND THESE MANTRAS DISPEL THE FEARS OF LIVING BEINGS. THEREFORE, THROUGHOUT THE TEN DIRECTIONS, IN AS MANY LANDS AS THERE ARE FINE MOTES OF DUST, I AM KNOWN AS THE ONE WHO BESTOWS FEARLESSNESS.

SHURANGAMA SUTRA

In the years that followed, Lin Kuo-le went on to discover other old affinities within the Buddhadharma. In December 1981, when the delegation from SABA/DRBU toured Southeast Asia under the directorship of the Venerable Abbot, Lin Kuo-le and over a hundred people took refuge with the Triple Jewel. When she first bowed to the Abbot, she had the feeling that she had seen him before, and felt an immediate closeness although she couldn't quite place her finger on the "missing link." One night as the Abbot ascended the High seat, sat in full lotus, and gave instructions to the assembly, something in her mind connected:

Around New Years' of 1981, she had a dream. In her dream she had nose cancer. At that time, in the events of the dream there was a world conference of the most influential and skilled medical experts and healers, and among them was a professor, a cancer expert from America. He cured her nose cancer. Just imagine Kuo-le's surprise as the Abbot ascended the Dharma seat, the dream suddenly connected and she realized that the cancer specialist she had dreamed of months ago was none other than the Venerable Abbot himself!

As her faith in the Buddhadharma increased, and she stepped up her cultivation, bowing to the Buddhas in her own home, reciting Sutras, meditating, chanting the Buddha's name, and generally inclining more and more to pure vegetarian food, the visions of her spiritual life broadened and she experienced many wonderful responses. In the summer of 1982, Kuo-le and her mother and other friends came on a pilgrimage to the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. She felt as if she knew the place and experienced a sense of great ease and comfort. Now she is even more resolved to offer up her life in service to the Triple Jewel, and to aid the propagation of the Proper Dharma world wide.

THE GOOD KNOWING ADVISOR IS DIFFICULT TO SEE, AND DIFFICULT TO ENCOUNTER. UPON SEEING THE GOOD KNOWING ADVISOR, ONE'S MIND IS NO LONGER SCATTERED AND CONFUSED. UPON SEEING THE GOOD KNOWING ADVISOR ONE SMASHES THE MOUNTAIN OF OBSTRUCTIONS. UPON SEEING THE GOOD KNOWING ADVISOR, ONE ENTERS THE SEA OF GREAT COMPASSION TO SAVE AND PROTECT LIVING BEINGS. UPON SEEING THE GOOD KNOWING ADVISOR, ONE

ATTAINS THE LIGHT OF WISDOM AND UNIVERSALLY ILLUMINES THE DHARMA REALM.

AVATAMSAKA SUTRA Entering the Dharma Realm Chapter 39

FORTHCOMING FROM BTTS

GREAT COMPASSION TRANSMISSION VERSES FOR THE FORTY-TWO HANDS AND EYES, complete with self portraits and copper plate renderings of each hand and eye. Verses bilingual--Chinese/ English. 85 photographs. AVAILABLE LATE FEB-RUARY, 1983.

CHERISHING life, VOLUME I. For elementary age children as well as adults, this book contains verses, brush drawings, and true accounts of transmigration--all on the topic of refraining from killing and of liberating the living. AVAILABLE LATE FEBRUARY, 1983.