



The Complete Kama Sutra : The First Unabridged Modern Translation of the Classic Indian Text

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This definitive volume is the first modern translation of Vatsyayana's Kama Sutra to include two essential commentaries: the Jayamangala of Yashodhara and the modern Hindi commentary by Devadatta Shastri. Alain Danielou spent four years comparing versions of the Kama Sutra in Sanskrit, Hindi, Bengali, and English, drawing on his intimate experience of India, to preserve the full explicitness of the original. I wanted to demystify India, he writes, to show that a period of great civilization, of high culture, is forcibly a period of great liberty.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The galaxy of pleasures in Alain Daniélou's translation of the *Kama Sutra* takes you back to an India where sexuality was an integral part of life and an avenue to spiritual bliss. As Devadatta Shastri says in his commentary: "At the moment when the peak of bliss is attained, the internal and external world vanish. The man and woman cease to be separate entities and lose themselves in the beatitudes of being." Daniélou's elegant rendering includes not only the entire sutra, much of which is excluded in other versions, but two essential commentaries as well. More than just a pillow book, the *Kama Sutra* is a guide to the labyrinth of sexual etiquette, from how to bathe before meeting a lover to how lovers should entertain each other after making love. Admittedly, the text is dated and culture bound in places; it can be chauvinistic, bizarre, and even violent. The commentators are careful to point out, however, that the work is an overview of all sexual practices, some of which are not recommended. Take from this encyclopedia of amour what you will and let it keep you moving down the path of spiritual practice. --*Brian Bruya*

From Library Journal

Long dismissed as a sort of Sanskrit Joy of Sex, the *Kama Sutra*, composed by Vatsyayana in the fourth century B.C., explores sexuality as an integral part of human existence. Arguing that happiness and moral duty (dharma) depend on elaborate social ritual to satisfy the essential needs of life, the *Kama Sutra* describes the practices, rituals, and lore of the erotic (kama) in human relations, both heterosexual and homosexual. Noted Indologist Daniélou provides a fluent and literal translation of the entire Sanskrit original with interpolated extracts from the 12th-century commentary by Yashodara and the modern Hindi commentary by Devadatta Shastri. This is an important advance over Burton's Victorian abridgment. - *T.L. Cooksey, Armstrong State Coll., Savannah, Ga.*

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From [The New Yorker](#)

Dildo was translated as 'medicine.' Lesbian was just 'corrupt woman.' No wonder we couldn't follow any of the instructions in the **Kama Sutra**. But now, there's a new translation of the oldest sex manual, the first since the Victorians brought it home and hid it under the mattress.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tracy McCulloch:

Nowadays reading books become more and more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want really feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. Often the *The Complete Kama Sutra : The First Unabridged Modern Translation of the Classic Indian Text* is kind of book which is giving the reader erratic experience.

Mary Torres:

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