

BUDDHA WALKS

CHORUS 7: THE PRICE TO BE PAID



How could the young Prince just walk away from a life such as his? After all the trouble and expense his father had taken to meet Siddhartha's every need: to keep him satisfied and content, to educate him in the sacred arts and sciences, and to find him Yasodhara, of course--the perfect bride.

What would everyone think? His father, first among them. How could the Prince even consider leaving, with the King and the entire Kingdom depending upon him to inherit the throne? Who could possibly take his place? Who would rule the Sakya people when his father could rule no longer?

And what about the son who had so recently graced Siddhartha's own life? The heir that every royal family requires. Who would father the child? Who would raise him? Who would strengthen the boy so that he too would one day become a man?

But all of this was a trifle compared to the hardship that leaving would cause his true love, Yasodhara. After almost half a lifetime together-- how could she survive without him? The sadness he would cause her was almost too much to bear.