



PETA

The Hungry Ghosts Who Suffer
from Their Own Misdeeds

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Preface

The Hungry Ghosts
Who Suffer from Their Own Misdeeds

In Buddhism, living beings are subject to reincarnation as regulated by the Law of Karma. This means that they can reborn into different forms depending on their good deeds and misdeeds. In general, living beings who commit good deeds will be reborn in the wholesome realms such as the celestial world and human world. By contrast, living beings who commit more bad than good deeds are more likely to be reborn into unwholesome realms such as hell or the animal and Peta realms.

A Peta is a hungry ghost who suffers from various forms of punishment depending on its karma. However, the punishment endured by a Peta can be considered less fatal than those who are reborn in the realm of hell. The fatality of their punishment depends on the severity of misdeeds they committed when they were living beings.

Although Peta cannot be seen with physical eyes some people can occasionally see them by chance. However, with their power of insight vision advanced meditation practitioner can see them clearly.

This book is published with the aim of discouraging its readers from doing misdeeds during their lifetime as these will cause suffering both in the present and the future. Thus, the truth about Peta awaits your own discovery, either through meditation or by direct experience after passing away.



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PETA

The Hungry Ghosts Who Suffer
from Their Own Misdeeds

A Peta was previously a human or angel who was once sinful. Such persons had already redeemed most of their sins in the realm of hell previously. However, some of their sin remained causing them to become a Peta who endured extreme torture and a lifetime of a million years. There are many types of Peta, each is classified by its sins.

A Peta's life can only end with the help of donated merits or by completely redeeming its sins.



This is the comparison between human size and Peta size

A Skeleton PETA

This type of Peta has no flesh;
all that remains is a skeleton.

The Peta has to suffer and
cries painfully all the time.
Its punishment results from
the sin of killing animals and
slicing up their meat until
only the skeleton remained.



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PETA

Eating its Baby

This Peta became pregnant
sinfully, and will eat its baby
after delivery. This results from
it being jealous and poisoning a
mistress until she aborted.



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PETA with Nails of Spears and Swords

This Peta has very sharp nails,
which it uses as claws to eat
its own flesh all the time.

This Peta once lived a life of
causing pain to others.

Its sin is from
killing animals for food.



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PETA Scooping up Chaff with its Hannds

This Peta uses its hands
to scoop up burning chaff and
place on its head. It has to painfully suffer
such burning because it was once a merchant
who used to cheat its customers
by mixing laterite with wheat
in order to increase the weight when selling.



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PETA suffering from Raining Hammers

The head of this Peta is badly wounded by 60,000 raining hammers from the sky. When its head appears again, the raining hammers beat it again and again for a very long time. This is because it once threw pebbles at a Buddhist monk while he was seeking alms. As a consequence, the monk passed away.

Grilled **PETA**

This Peta is being burnt alive with red hot coals. This is because it once set fire to another person and burnt their entire body.



PETA with the Head Located on the Lumbar Portion of its Spine

The head of this Peta is located on the lumbar portion of its spine enabling it to extend its tongue so that it can consume its own excrement. Moreover, the Peta's body is riddled with worms causing extreme suffering.

This results from it once being dishonest by cheating and also accepting bribery.



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Rock-Post PETA

Half of this Peta's body is sunk into the ground.

Only the upper part of the body

appears above ground

thus the Peta is unable to escape.

Furthermore, it is burnt all the time, which is the result of it once invading a temple and moving a boundary post without permission.

The Peta was trying to cheat the temple out of its land.



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Vomiting and Eating **PETA**

This kind of Peta is tall and dark,
with a swollen stomach.
It vomits worms and excrement,
which it then gathers to be eaten again.
This is because it once broke
the Buddhist Precepts by stealing,
lying and drinking alcohol.

PETA Eating Saliva, Mucus and Phlegm

When someone spits, this Peta
always secretly eats their saliva
and never lets them see its body.
This is because it once entered a temple
and spat upon the ground.



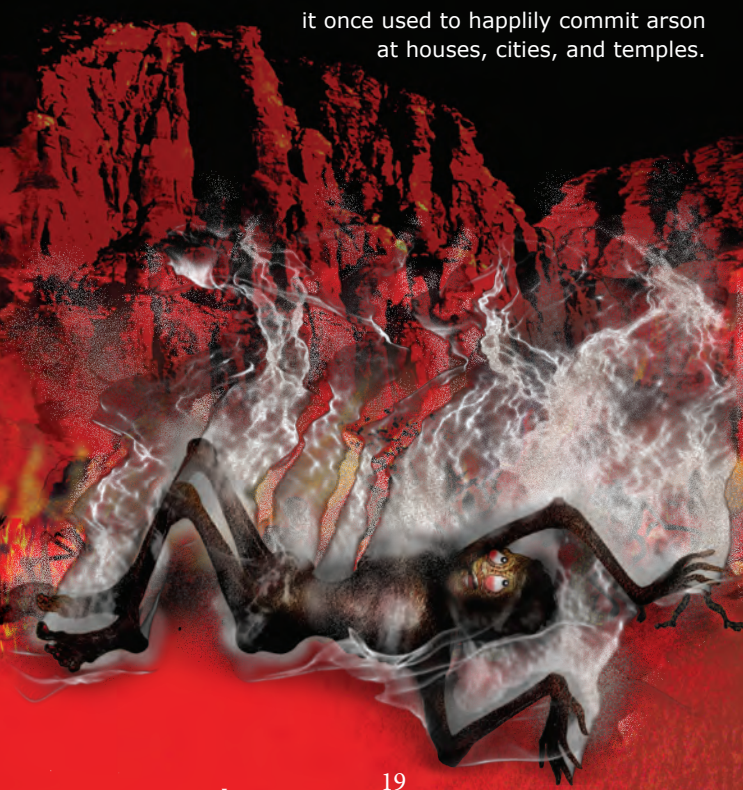
Big-handed PETA

This kind of Peta has a small body but big hands. It is on fire all the time. This is because it once liked stealing things no matter whether they were small, medium, or large in size.



Burnt and On-fire PETA

The body of this Peta is as huge as a mountain. In the nighttime, it will be lightened. However, during the daytime its body is always on fire. This is because it once used to happily commit arson at houses, cities, and temples.



Headless PETA

The eyes and mouth of this Peta are on its own body.
Several metal-beaked crows are constantly pecking at it, causing pain.
This is because it was once an executioner whose job was to behead prisoners.



PETA Carrying Garbage over its Head

This Peta carries smelly garbage all the time. This is because it was once an abbot who was selfishly possessive about his residence. He refused even to give a one-night's stay to a passing monk.



Armless and On-fire PETA

This Peta endures a lot of suffering.
This is because it once cheated
and stole the treasures of other people.



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Popeyed PETA

The eyes of this Peta protrude and are very ugly.
The eyes are full of worms all the time.
This is because it once used its eyes sinfully
and immorally.



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PETA in the Body of Chicken with the Face of Pig

This Peta has an ugly and scary body.

Its body looks like a chicken
while its face appears like a pig.

This kind of Peta is significantly more unwell
than other kinds of Peta. It does not dare
to be seen by anyone because it is ashamed of its body.
This is because it usually killed pigs and chicken

PETA Hammering Its Own Head

This Peta hits its head with a hammer all the time.
It cannot stop this and has to endure a lot of suffering.

This is because it once brought friends to its home
but its mother did not welcome the friends.

Therefore, it angrily hit its mother's head
with a leather rope.



Monkey PETA

This Peta has a humanbody but the arms, legs and head of a monkey. This is because it once liked mocking grandparents, the elderly and the virtuous persons.

Spear-Haired PETA

The body of this Peta has sharp spears protruding from its pores and is also on fire. This is because

it was once a hunter who hunted animals with spears.



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Snake PETA

This Peta looks like a gigantic snake with the face of Peta. It has been burned from its tail to its head and from the middle of the body to the head and the tail, back and forth. This is because it once set fire to the residence of a Buddhist monk



PETA Crowned with a Flower-garland

This Peta wears a garland made of golden shower flowers on its head. This is because it was once a hunter who always hunted animals. One day, he found the golden shower flowers and picked them to make a garland. Later, he accidentally found a cute child and gave the garland to the child because of the child's loveliness.



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This Peta is draped in a hot metal cloth which is on fire all the time. It cannot uncover or take the cloth off. This is because it once picked up a blown away flag which was used for worshipping a pagoda. However, instead of returning the flag, it happily hung the flag on its neck.

PETA Draped in Hot Metal Cloth



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PETA Carrying Burning Land on its Back

This kind of Peta has to carry burning land on its back.
This is because it once cheated the temple's land.

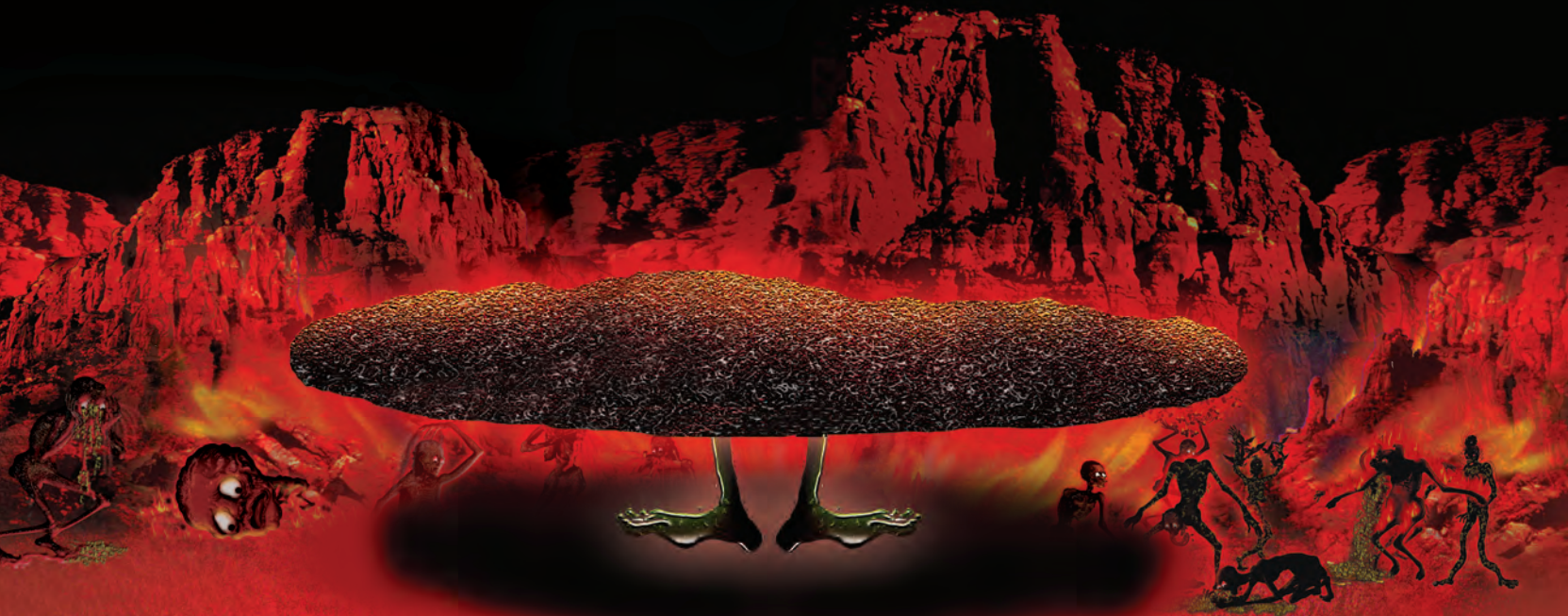


Stone PETA

The body of this Peta is a piece of huge stone,
with protruding feet and no eyes.

It is forced to stand still
and does not know which way to go.

This is because when it was born as a human
in the era of Lord Kassapa Buddha,
it used to hide monks' food
in order to keep for its own consumption.



Crow PETA

This Peta appears as a burning crow because when it was born as a crow it used to peck at the food alms prepared for monks. Thus, not only sinful humans become Peta: sinful crows and also other animals can become Peta according to the sins they commit.



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PETA with Beautiful Hair

This Peta was once a millionaire who was possessive about his properties. One day he gave his child a present; a fan made of peacock's feathers. The child duly offered it to a monk. After finding out, the millionaire always regretted giving away the fan. When he died, he had to become a Peta. However, the merit his child made by offering the peacock-feather fan to the monk causes the Peta to have beautiful hair.



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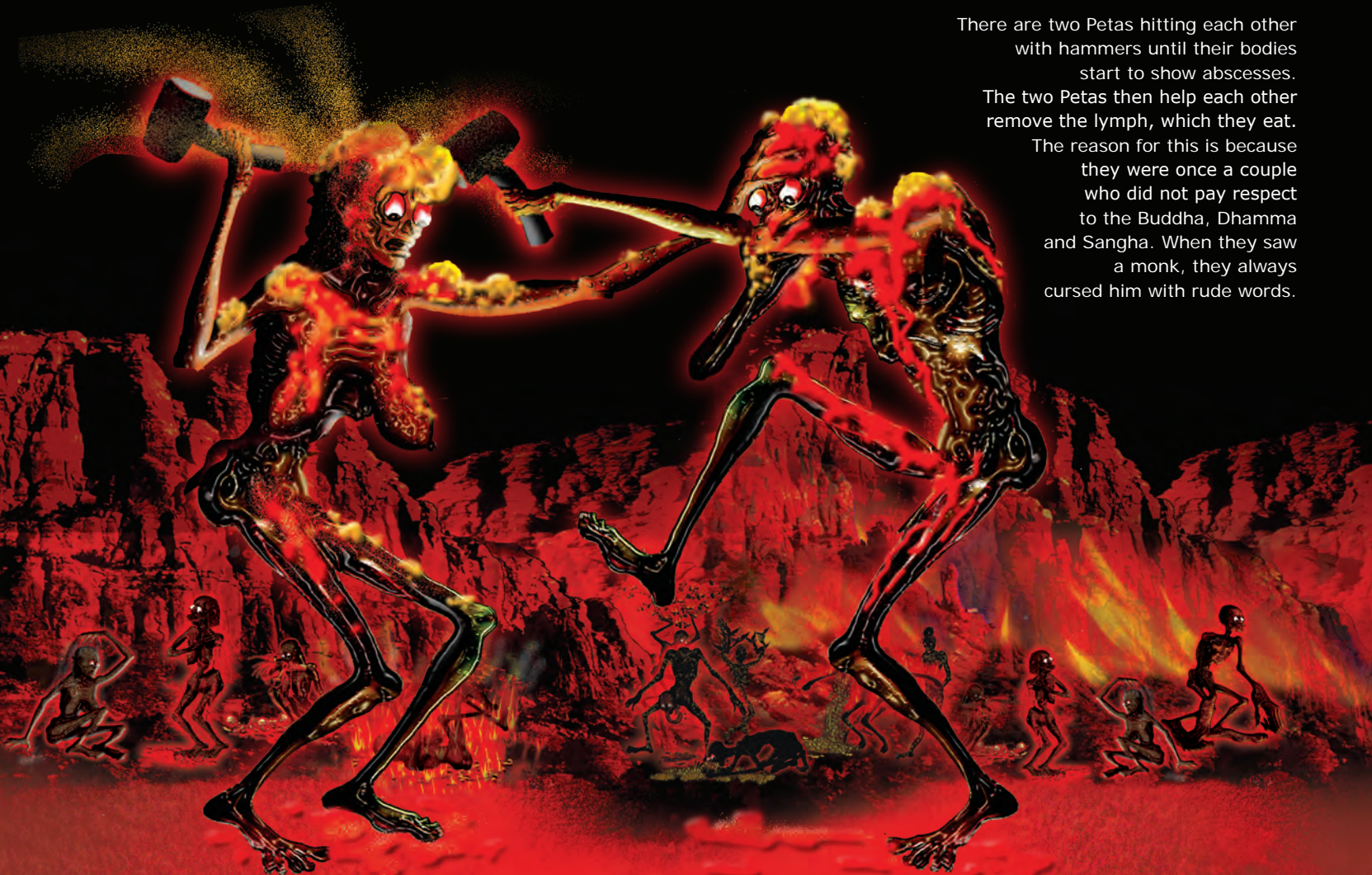
PETA Dragging its Penis

This Peta has a huge
and very heavy penis,
which is continuously on fire.
This is because it used to speak
a rude word for penis
in front of virtuous people.



PETA Couple

There are two Petas hitting each other with hammers until their bodies start to show abscesses. The two Petas then help each other remove the lymph, which they eat. The reason for this is because they were once a couple who did not pay respect to the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha. When they saw a monk, they always cursed him with rude words.



Beautiful PETA

This Peta is as elegant as an angel.
However, it always kneels and bends down
while hungrily eating unhygienic substances
such as mucus, saliva and phlegm.

This is because it was once a monk
who did not conform to the Buddhist precepts.
Also, he did not intend to practice meditation.
On the contrary, he persuaded other people
to give up meditation.



PETA Eating Blood and Lymph

This Peta eats excrement and licks the lymph
of another Peta queuing before it.

The reason for this is because
it was once a very selfish millionaire
who persuaded other people
to give up making merit.



PETA Removing its Intestines to Feed Metal-beaked Crows

This Peta has to suffer immensely
by removing its own intestines
to feed metal-beaked crows.
The reason for this is because,
when it was a human,
it loved to disclose
the secrets of other people
in exchange for rewards.



This Peta has a human body but its legs
and head resemble a pig.

Its tail appears from its mouth
and its body is covered in worms
and it is on fire constantly.

The Peta also vomits excrement
and the reason for this state
is because it used to earn its living
by killing pigs and selling them.

Pig PETA



Dog PETA

The body of this Peta
resembles a gigantic dog
suffering from being on fire.

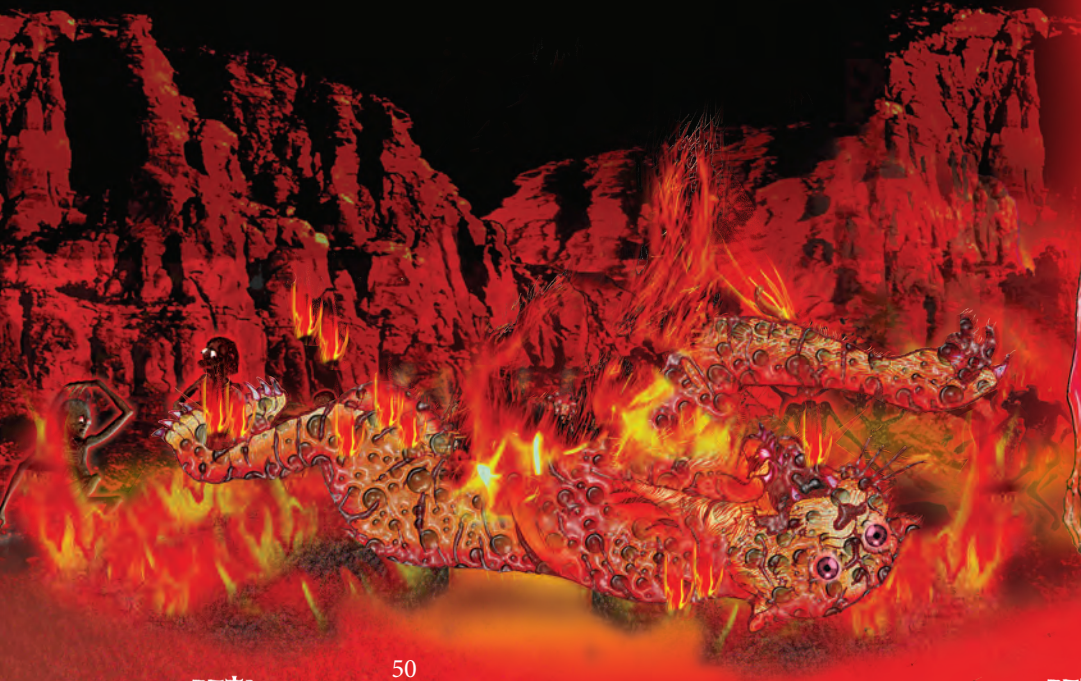
This is because
it used to use black magic
and dislike monks.
Therefore, it scolded the monks
and compared them to dogs.



Tiger PETA

This Peta has the body of burning tiger.
This is because it used to use black magic.

Since it disliked monks,
it disguised itself as a tiger
in order to frighten them.



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PETA without Epidermis

This Peta does not have an epidermis
and lymph flows from its body
all the time. This is because
it used to fleece other people
with the desire to taking over
their properties.



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Big PETA with Small Head

The head of this Peta
is much larger than its body.
It is on fire and the head is so heavy
that this Peta cannot lift it
from the ground. This is because
it used to deceive other people
by telling them that it was very rich,
causing them to lose their properties,
money and fame.

Small PETA with Large Head

This Peta has a very large body,
but an extremely small head.
Its body is covered in worms.
This is because
it used to disregard
other people's feelings
and made them feel ashamed
while talking to them.

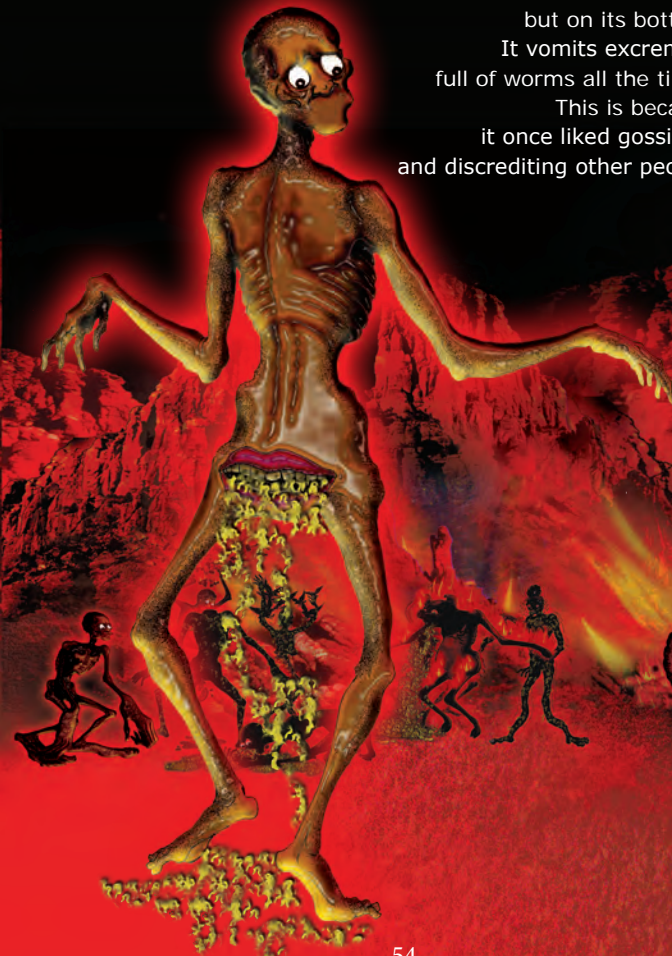


PETA with a Mouth for its Bottom

The mouth of this Peta
is not located on its face
but on its bottom.

It vomits excrement
full of worms all the time.

This is because
it once liked gossiping
and discrediting other people.



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Stub PETA

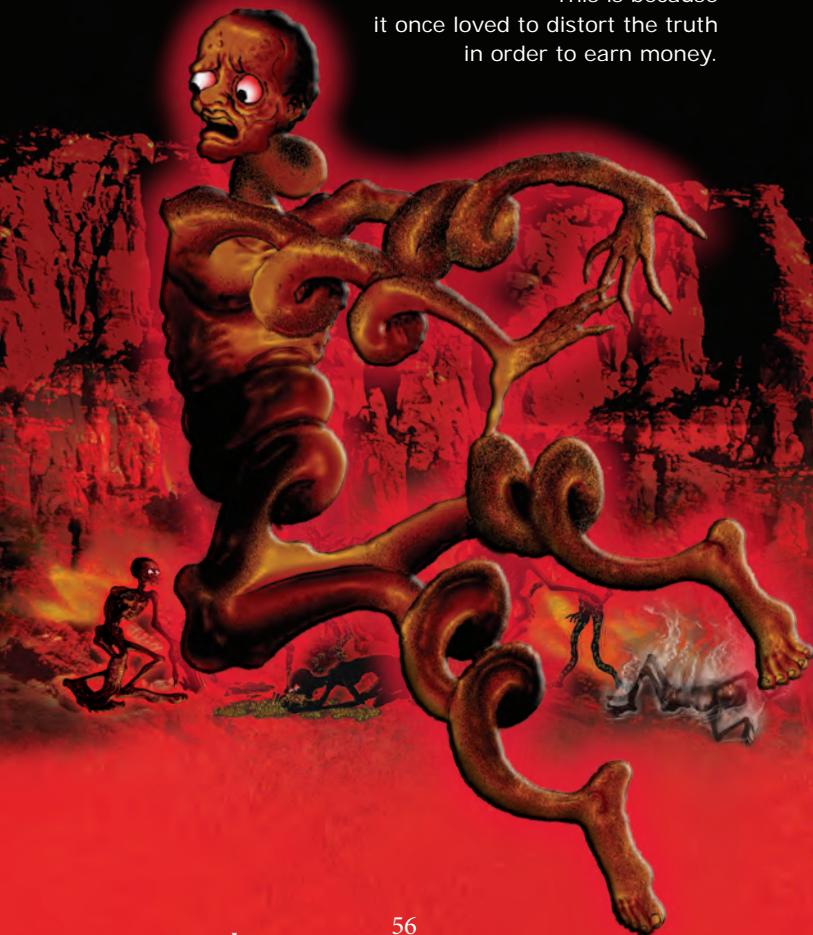
This Peta is very tall but it is burnt as dark as a stub. It is very smelly and cannot move its hands or feet. It has long fangs and long untidy hair. This is because it was once selfish and afraid of a monk who might come to beg for alms from it. Therefore, it angrily scolded the monk causing him to feel ashamed.



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PETA with a Twisted Neck and Arms

This Peta has a twisted neck, arms, hands, body and legs. This is because it once loved to distort the truth in order to earn money.



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Pig's Head PETA with Fangs

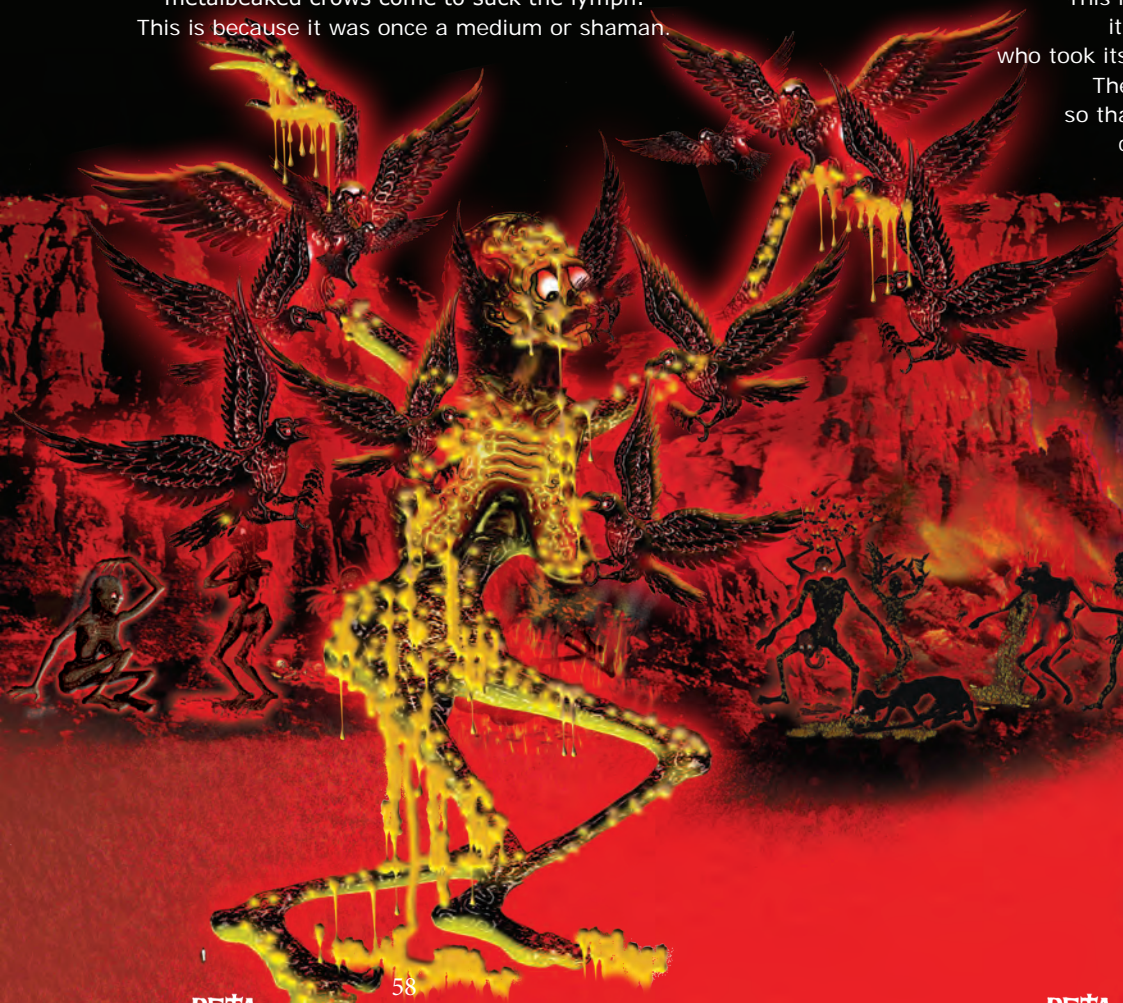
This is a female Peta with a pig's head and fangs. This is because it once liked scolding its husband and its husband's mother.



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PETA full of Abscesses

The body of this Peta is covered in abscesses and flowing smelly lymph. When the abscess is ripe, metalbeaked crows come to suck the lymph. This is because it was once a medium or shaman.



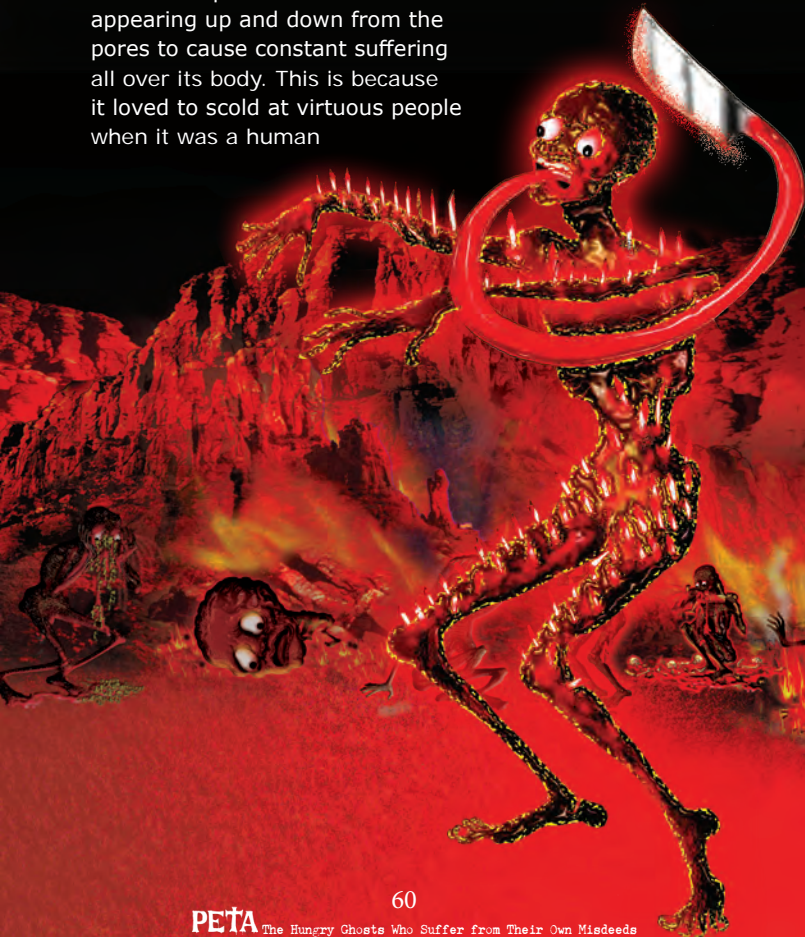
Child PETA

This Peta suffers from black blood flowing constantly from its mouth. This is because when it was a child, it angrily scolded its mother who took its money to buy food alms for monks. Therefore, it cursed the monks so that they would have black blood coming from their mouths



PETA with Hair of Spears and Sword

This Peta has a very long tongue.
At the end of it there is a knife
which it uses as a whip to cut itself.
There are spears and swords
appearing up and down from the
pores to cause constant suffering
all over its body. This is because
it loved to scold at virtuous people
when it was a human



PETA Eating its Own Flesh

This Peta discards its flesh
until only the skeleton remains.
It picks up its own flesh to eat.
This is because it once liked deceiving
other people and discouraging those
who intended to make merit.



PETA with no Mouth

This Peta has no mouth. It carries a knife in its right hand and an ewer in its left hand. Inside of its body is full of worms who try to get out but there is no opening for them to exit. Thus, the Peta has to cut its mouth open in order for the worms to escape. Then the Peta pours acid in the ewer onto its wounds causing so much suffering.

This is because it used to mock, insult and discourage people who made merit.



PETA with Large Hands and Feet

The ears of this Peta are under its chin.

The Peta has large hands and feet but an extremely small mouth no bigger than the eye of a needle. This is because it always argued with and assaulted its parents when it was a human.



PETA with Burning Fire coming from its Mouth

This Peta is on fire all the time. This is because it was once a selfish millionaire who provided extremely hot food to a beggar, hoping to cause suffering so that the beggar would not return to ask for food again.



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Two PETAS Eating Excrement

There are two Petas; one is standing on the shoulders of the other. The upper Peta waits for the excrement of another Peta while the lower Peta waits for the excrement of the one above it. This is because the lower Peta was once an abbot who was very selfish and jealous. He scolded a particular monk who visited his patron's house because he did not want the monk to receive offerings. He also accused the monk to the patron who believed in his words. After they passed away, the patron became the upper Peta while the abbot became the lower one.



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Mouse **PETA** Guarding Treasure

This Peta has a human body but its head, arms and legs resemble a mouse. This is because it was once rich but also very selfish. It tried to hide the fact that it had a lot of properties. When it nearly died, its mind still clung to its properties.



Cock-headed **PETA**

This Peta has a human body but the head of cock.
This is because it once believed and had faith in shamanism.
When it nearly died,
its mind still unwholesomely clung to its belief causing it to become a Cock-headed Peta.



PETA with the Head of a Hog Dear

This Peta has a human body but the head of a hog dear. This is because it once believed and had faith in shamanism. When it nearly died, its mind still unwholesomely clung to its belief causing it to become a Peta with the head of hog dear.



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PETA with Large Testes

This Peta has large testes and is suffering from being pecked by several metalbeaked crows. This is because it was once a juror who, in return for a bribe, always judged those that were right as wrong and those that were wrong as right.

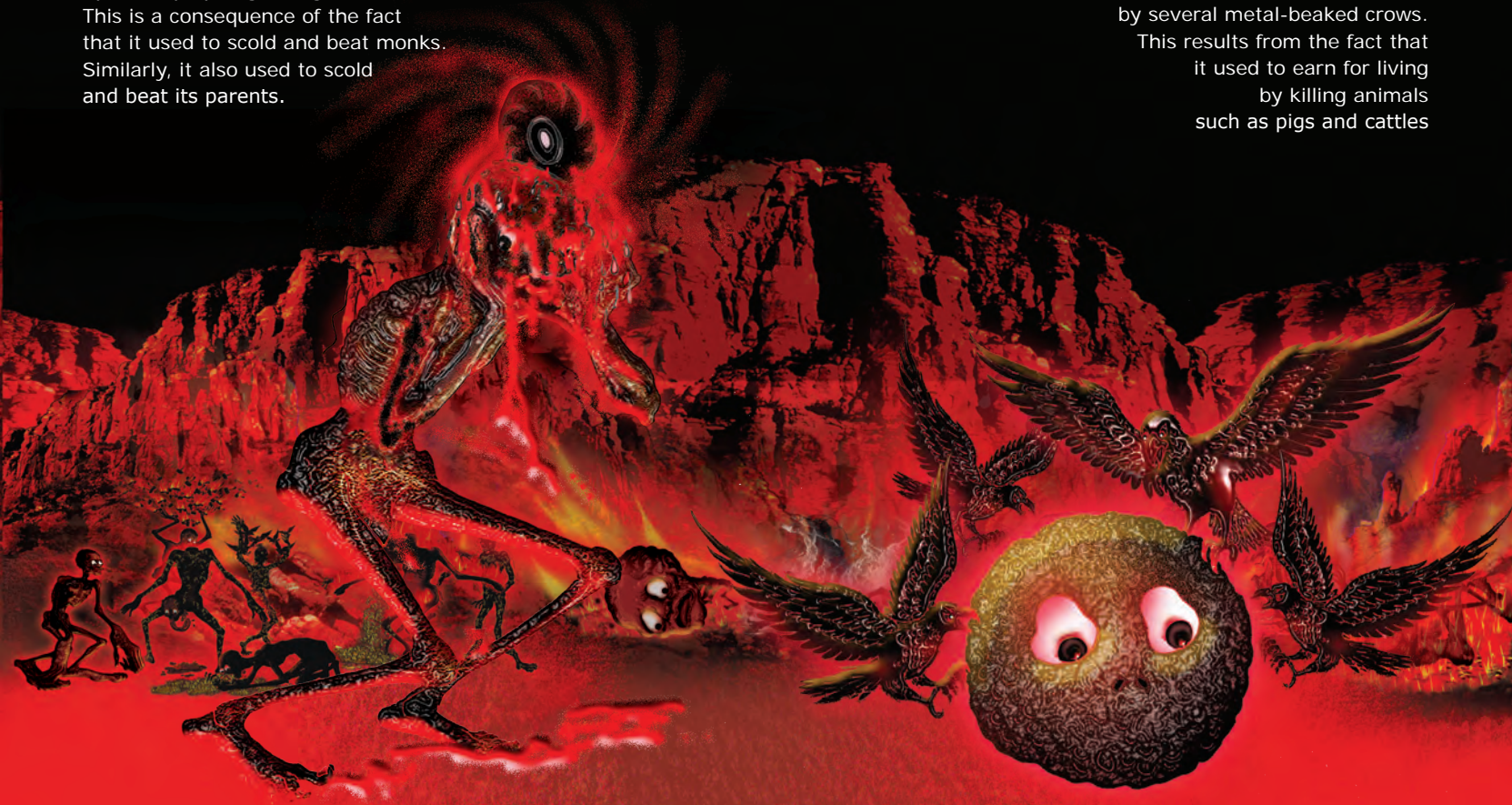


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PETA

with Disk Gear Wheel

The head of this kind of Peta is
tortured all the time
by a sharp cycling disk gear wheel.
This is a consequence of the fact
that it used to scold and beat monks.
Similarly, it also used to scold
and beat its parents.



PETA

in the Shape of a Meat-loaf

This kind of Peta is
in the shape of a meat loaf.
It is being painfully pecked
by several metal-beaked crows.
This results from the fact that
it used to earn for living
by killing animals
such as pigs and cattles

Floating PETA

This Peta has flowing lymph and its body is on fire. The Peta has to float in the air in order to escape from the attacking crows. This is because it was once a queen who envied a mistress of the king. As a result, the queen threw burning coals over the mistress until her body was totally burnt.



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Dusty PETA

This Peta is very skinny with dermatitis. It loves being covered in dust all the time. However, the dust causes it to suffer from a painful allergy. This is because it once poured dust onto the mattress and clothes of other people due to its anger.



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PETA with a Large Stomach and Mouth as Tiny as the Eye of a Needle

This Peta is very thin,
but it has a long neck
and large heavy stomach.
Its mouth is as tiny as
the eye of a needle.

This is because
it was once selfish;
it never donated
and also prohibited other people
from donating.



CONTRIBUTORS

*sabbadānaṃ
dhammadānaṃ jināti*

The gift of Dhamma excels all other gifts

Dhammapada verse 354

The publication of this book has been made possible only by the starting capital received from benefactors. The publisher thus wishes to take this opportunity to rejoice in the merit of all the contributors listed below, with the wish that the merit accrued when this publication is read, might lead all who have had some part in the production of this book swiftly towards the attainment of the Dhammakaya.

The production team would like to dedicate our merit of producing this book as an offering to the Supreme Self-Enlightened One and to our beloved spiritual teachers:

The Great Master Phramongkolthepmuni
(Sodh Candasaro)

The Most Venerable Phrarajbhavanavisudh
(Luang Por Dhammajayo)

The Most Venerable Phrabhavanaviriyakhun
(Luang Por Dattajeevo)

The Master Nun Chand Khonnokyoong

The Master Nun Thongsuk Sumdangpant

Anyone can become a **PETA**
- hungry ghost-
if he or she commits misdeeds.
Sin energy will lead one
to be reborn as a **PETA**
and thus suffer from
various forms of punishment
for a considerable period of time.
A period of time
beyond most people's imagination.

