



Story: The Clay Buddha

A monastery in Thailand in 1957 was being moved. A group of monks was tasked with moving a giant clay Buddha that had always been located at this monastery. In the process of moving it, one of the monks noticed a crack in the clay. Becoming very concerned about further damaging the statue, he stopped work to examine the crack closer.

One of the monks took a flashlight and began to inspect the entire Buddha. When he shined his light on the crack, something reflected at him. The now curious monk retrieved a hammer and chisel and began to chip carefully away at the clay. After hours of carefully chipping away the clay, he admired what he had slowly uncovered, a solid gold Buddha.

Historians believe that hundreds of years ago, monks from the monastery covered the Buddha with clay in preparation for an attack by the Burmese army. The monks figured the invading army would have no use for a large clay Buddha and leave it alone.

All the monks died in the invasion, leaving no one alive that knew the truth. It was not until 1957 that the actual nature of the Buddha was revealed.

We are not that different. We have much in common with the golden Buddha. We hide our true nature under a layer of clay to protect ourselves. All we need to do is chip away at our own false outer shell to reveal our true worth and golden nature.