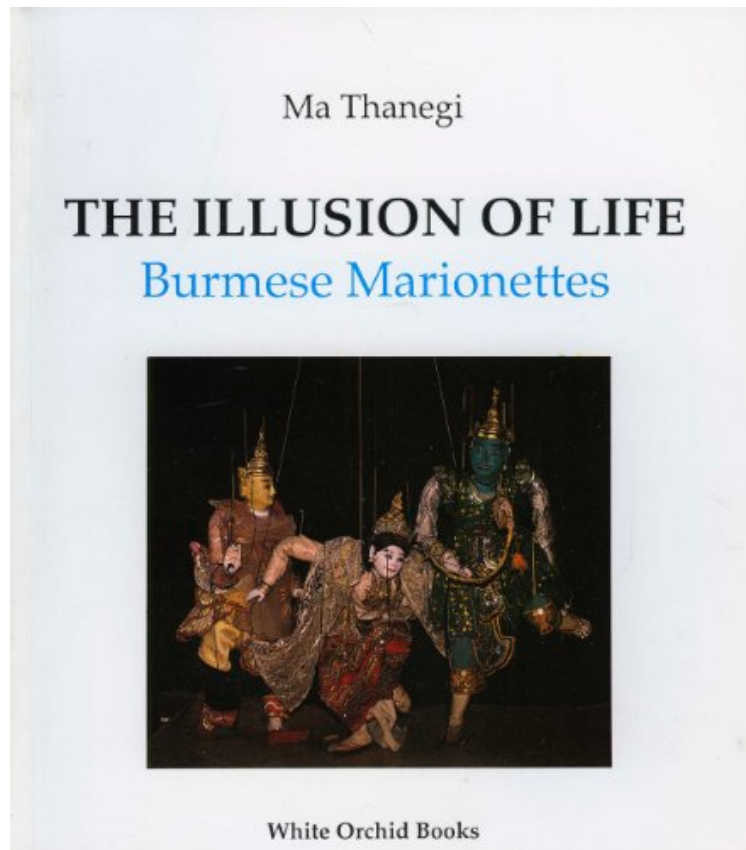


[FREE] The Illusion of Life: Burmese Marionettes (White orchid books)

## The Illusion of Life: Burmese Marionettes (White orchid books)

*Ma Thanegi*

*ebooks / Download PDF / \*ePub / DOC / audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#7026573 in Books 2009-10-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.63 x .33 x 7.67l, .75 #File Name: 9748304035108 pages | File size: 54.Mb

**Ma Thanegi : The Illusion of Life: Burmese Marionettes (White orchid books)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Illusion of Life: Burmese Marionettes (White orchid books):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Reliable and excellentBy CustomerI wasn't sure what to expect. But the book arrived, it was in great condition and it was a sheer joy.

More than entertainment, Burmese marionettes were used as a means of educating the audience in literature, history, religion, customs and current affairs.

But no matter how beautifully carved the dolls are, as Ma Thanegi points out, "it was the master puppeteer who brought the High Drama to life. Their particular stories, skills and innovations added much to the allure of the marionette theatre." These were the people who were speakers of "both king and man" who ensured that this unique art form was "enforced by all classes of Burmese society, a voice for all, but a mouthpiece for none." This art, and its masters, has never before been so skilfully described. A selection of photographs by the author herself, and Burmese

photographer Khin Maung Toon, increase the book's attraction. The text also has a subtle contemporary ring to it. The "illusion of life" in today's Burma remind of the old absolute monarchy. What people could not do in public, innocent wooden dolls could do without severe restrictions This book is especially timely since vast numbers of Burmese puppets are being smuggled to Thailand, where they are sold along with ancient Buddha images, religious scriptures, and the rest of Burma's cultural heritage. Sadly, the marionette theatre is disappearing fast in modern Burma. Ma Thanegi's book is a tribute to this dying art form, and to the puppet masters who are struggling to keep it alive. For this and other reasons, it should be read by anyone who is interested in South Asian history and culture. -- Bertil Lintner, Far Eastern Economic , July 27,1995