

## PADMASAMBHAVA

**129.** As a small child I was anxious around people. I used to hate parties because at that time in Scotland children had to learn and perform 'a party piece', usually a song or a joke or a poem. Having to perform made me very self-conscious. I did not like to be visible as I felt it placed me apart in an unpleasant isolation. I remember going to a party in a classmate's flat when I was about seven. It must have been around Christmas time since they had a Christmas tree and after each child did their little song or whatever, they would get a present from the tree. But I felt too shy to do anything. At the end my mother came and collected me and as we walked off down the road I started crying because I didn't get my little present. So my mother said, *"Oh, we can go back and get your present."* So we went back to the boy's house and, although I did not have the qualities required to win my present, due to the blessing power of my mother I got my present and I was very happy. The mother of the boy whose party it was said, *"Yes, of course you can have this, James."*

So it's the same now. From the very beginning our buddha nature is our present. We can have it anytime. But if we feel shy and lack the qualities to awaken by ourselves, then Padmasambhava will take our hand and make sure that we get our present. It's not all up to us.

*Excerpts from Transcript*