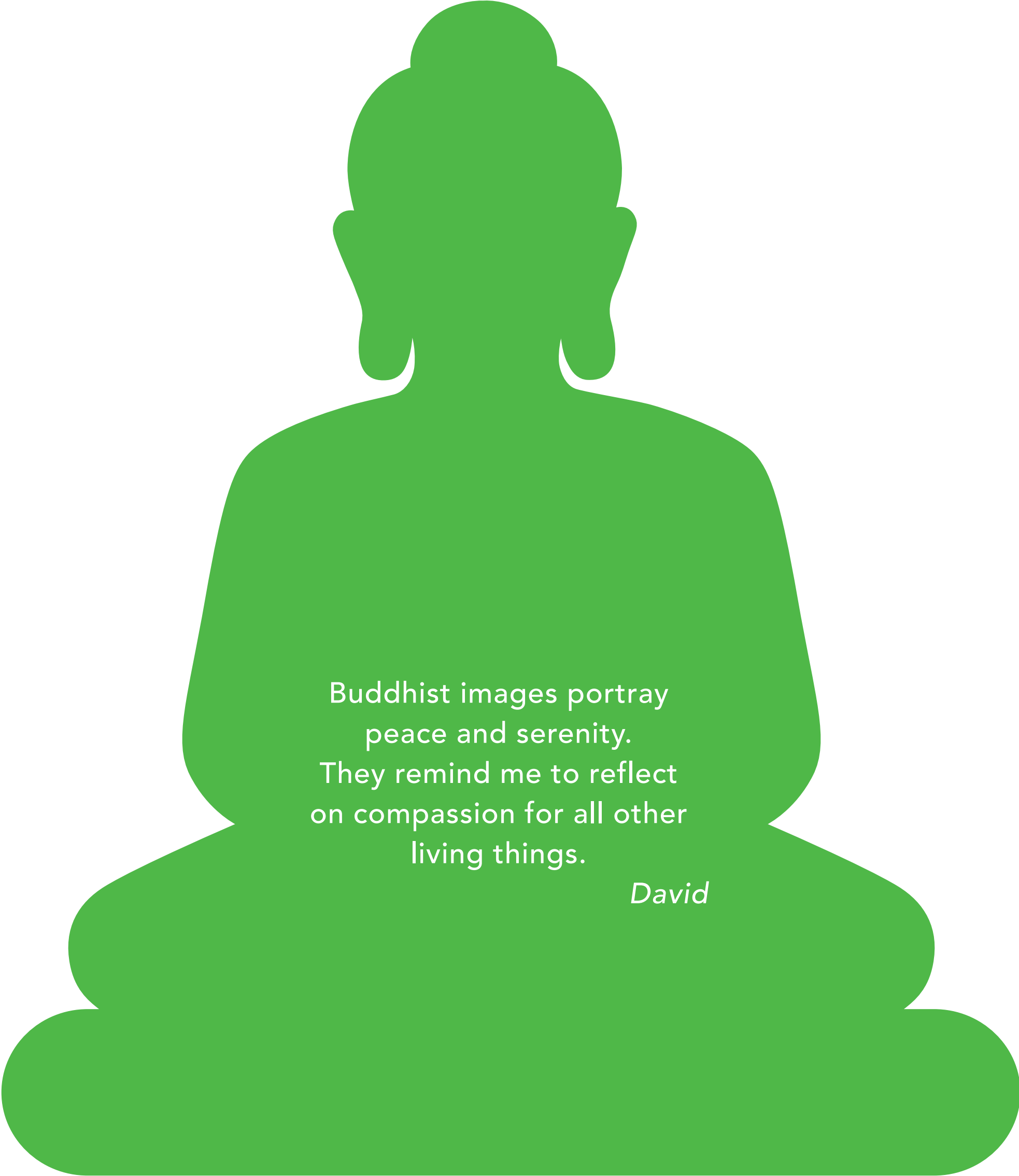
A dark silhouette of a Buddha figure in a meditative pose, sitting cross-legged with hands resting on the knees. The figure is centered on a white background. The text is overlaid on the torso of the figure.


My parents gave me
the Buddha because they
promised the Thai
government to bring me
up knowing what it is to be
Buddhist. I am 9 years old
and I was adopted at 2 and
a half years of age.

Jemsai



Buddhist images portray
peace and serenity.
They remind me to reflect
on compassion for all other
living things.

David




This Buddha stands in our
Chinese temple in front
of a Frida Kahlo picture.
On top of the temple is our
household's supreme deity,
Elvis, but we also have our
bets hedged with Ganesh,
Quan Yin and Gandhi.

Tamasine

A dark silhouette of a Buddha figure in a meditative pose, sitting cross-legged with hands in the lap. The figure has a serene expression and a topknot hairstyle. The text is centered within the torso of the figure.

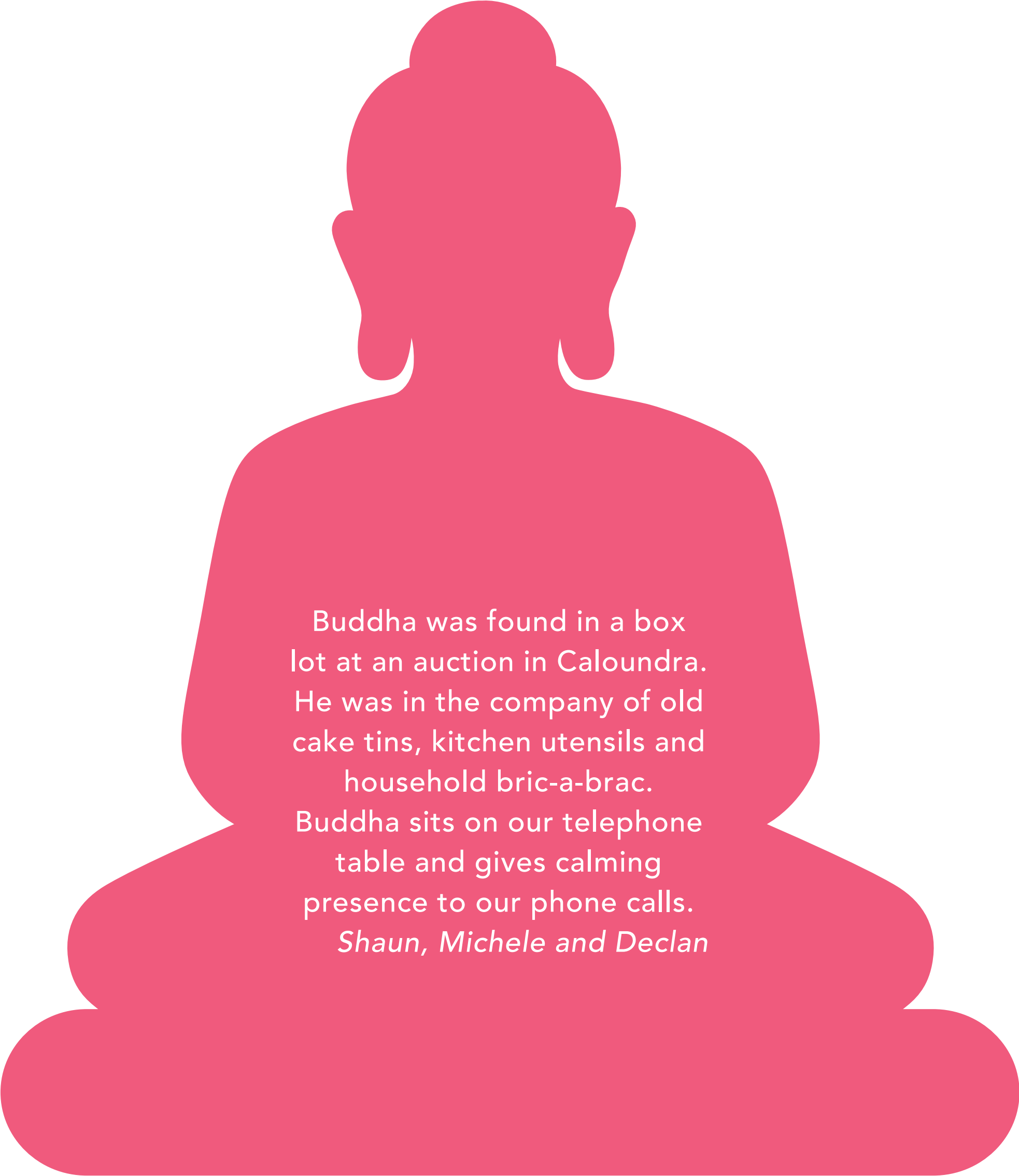
My father dug it up in our
garden at Brighton.
It appears Chinese in origin.
It has some old newspaper
clippings inside.

Catherine Nash



I am 10 years old.
My Buddha was a gift from
my godmother. It will become
a family heirloom because
she gave it to me.

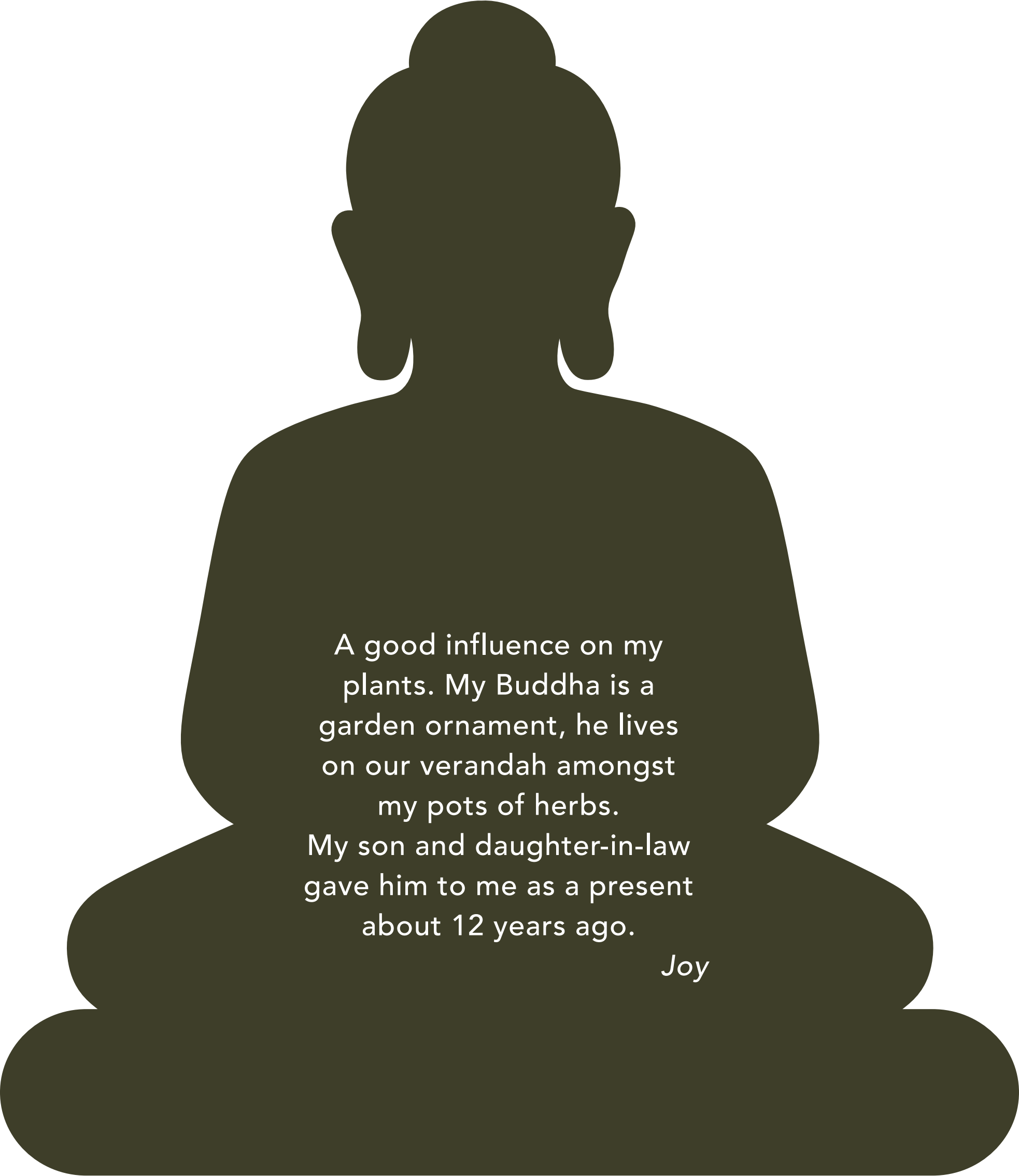
Jack



Buddha was found in a box
lot at an auction in Caloundra.
He was in the company of old
cake tins, kitchen utensils and
household bric-a-brac.

Buddha sits on our telephone
table and gives calming
presence to our phone calls.


Shaun, Michele and Declan



A good influence on my
plants. My Buddha is a
garden ornament, he lives
on our verandah amongst
my pots of herbs.

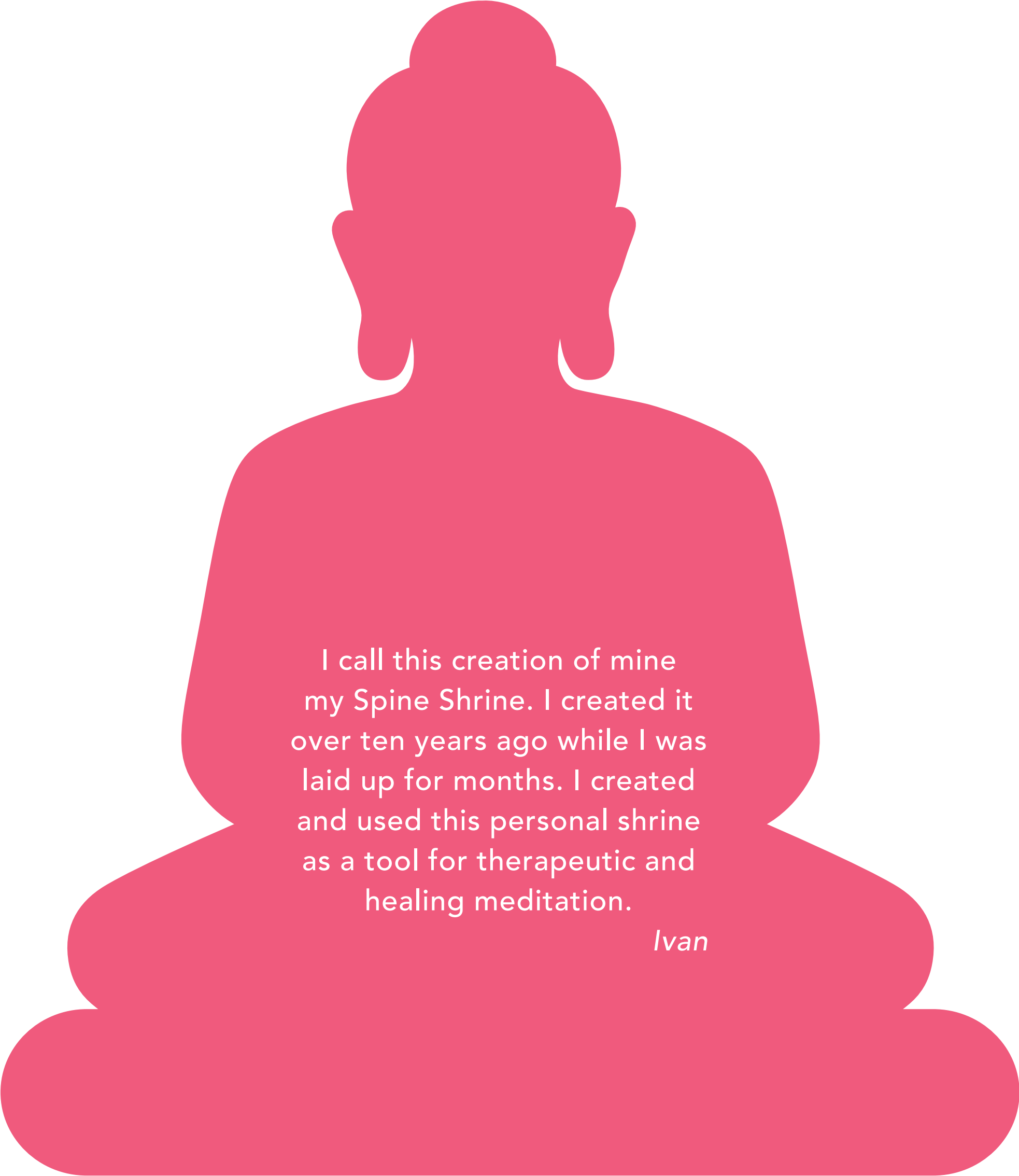
My son and daughter-in-law
gave him to me as a present
about 12 years ago.

Joy



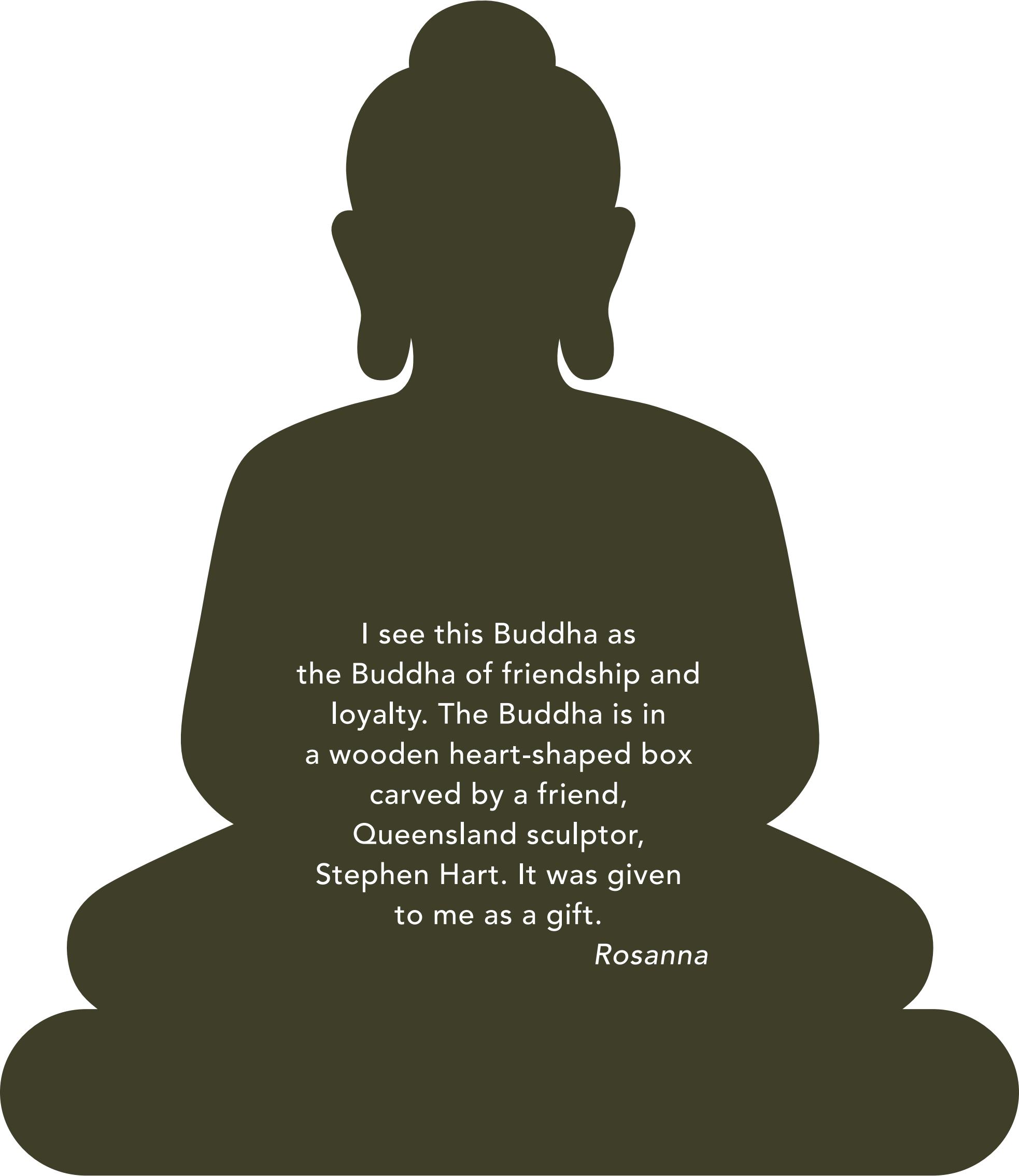
This Buddha is normally on loan to my workplace, Karuna Hospice Services in Windsor. It inspires us daily to practice kindness and compassion.

Hilary



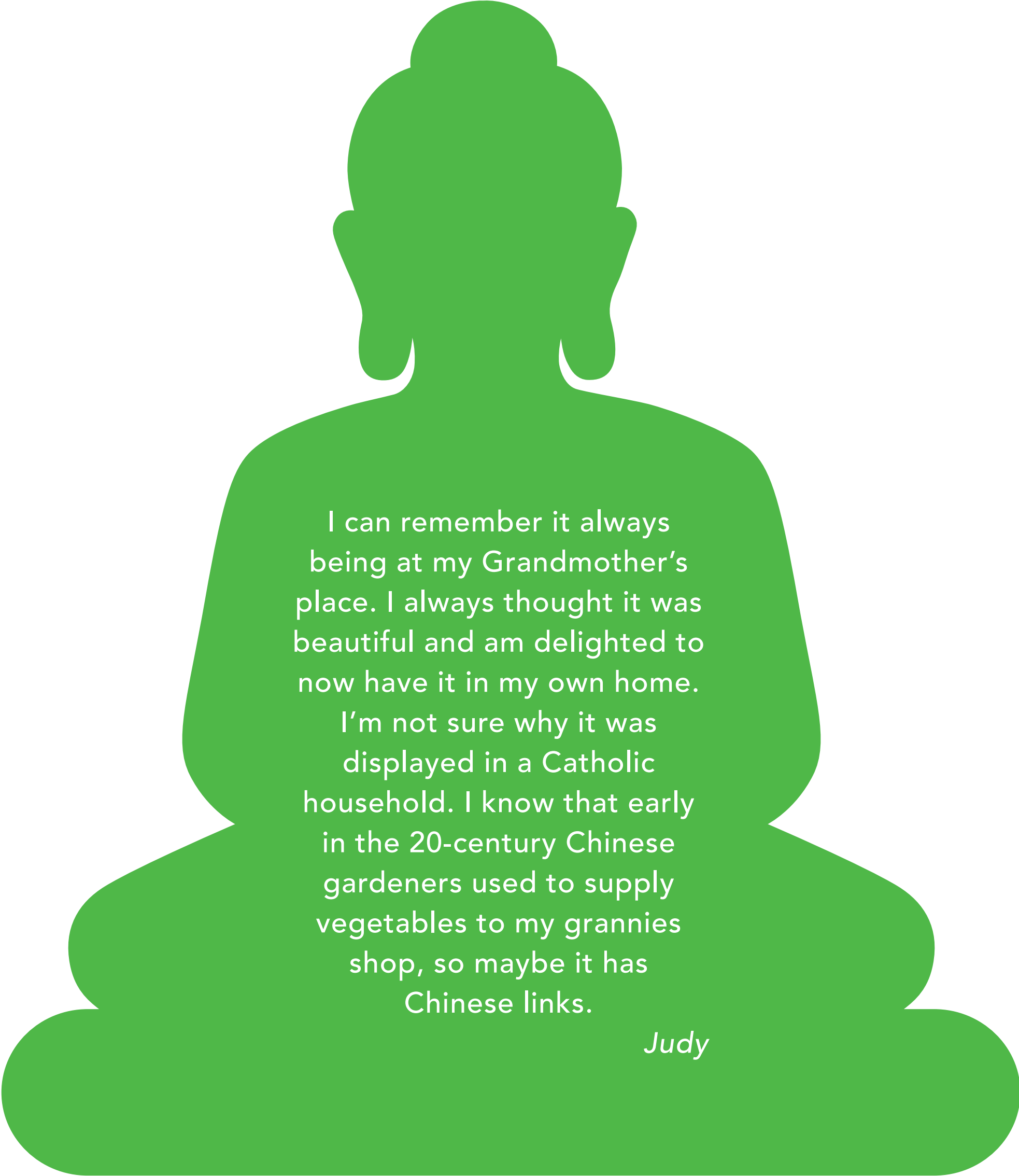
I call this creation of mine
my Spine Shrine. I created it
over ten years ago while I was
laid up for months. I created
and used this personal shrine
as a tool for therapeutic and
healing meditation.

Ivan



I see this Buddha as
the Buddha of friendship and
loyalty. The Buddha is in
a wooden heart-shaped box
carved by a friend,
Queensland sculptor,
Stephen Hart. It was given
to me as a gift.


Rosanna



I can remember it always being at my Grandmother's place. I always thought it was beautiful and am delighted to now have it in my own home.

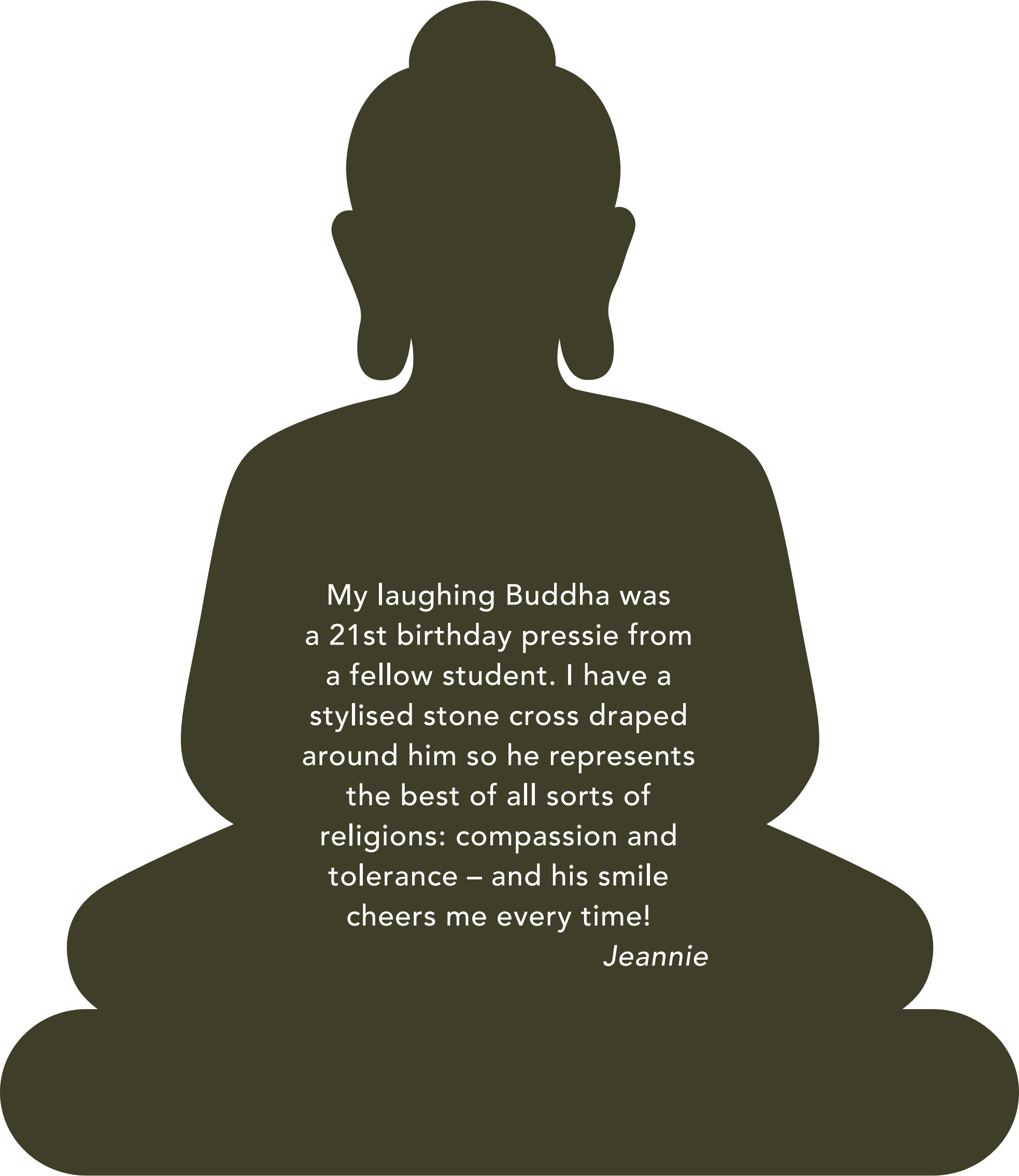
I'm not sure why it was displayed in a Catholic household. I know that early in the 20-century Chinese gardeners used to supply vegetables to my grannies shop, so maybe it has Chinese links.

Judy



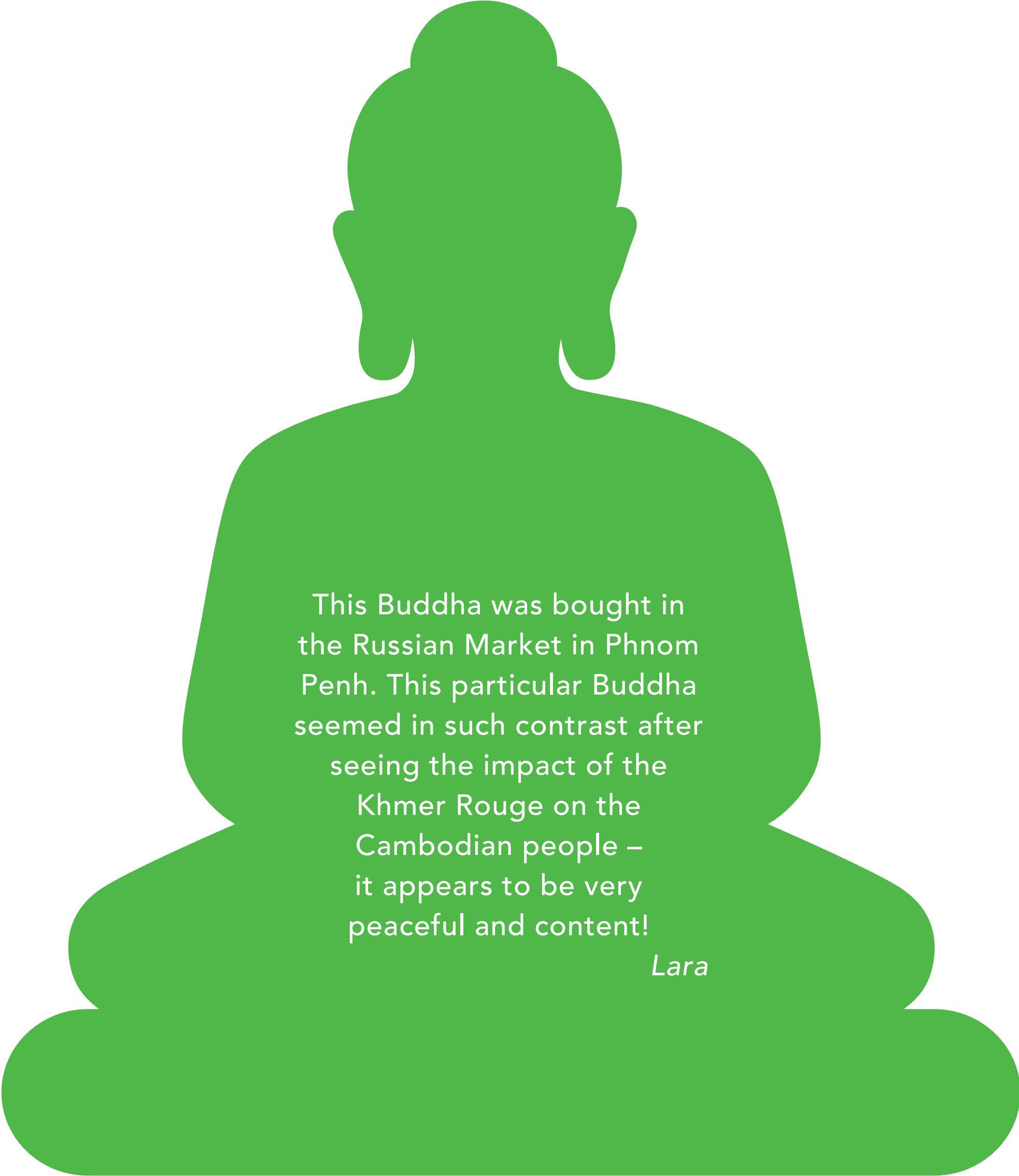
One of the last links with dear
mother now deceased. In my
family for decades – origin
not known, maybe purchased
en route to Australia as
migrants in 1949.

Kes




My laughing Buddha was
a 21st birthday pressie from
a fellow student. I have a
stylised stone cross draped
around him so he represents
the best of all sorts of
religions: compassion and
tolerance – and his smile
cheers me every time!

Jeannie



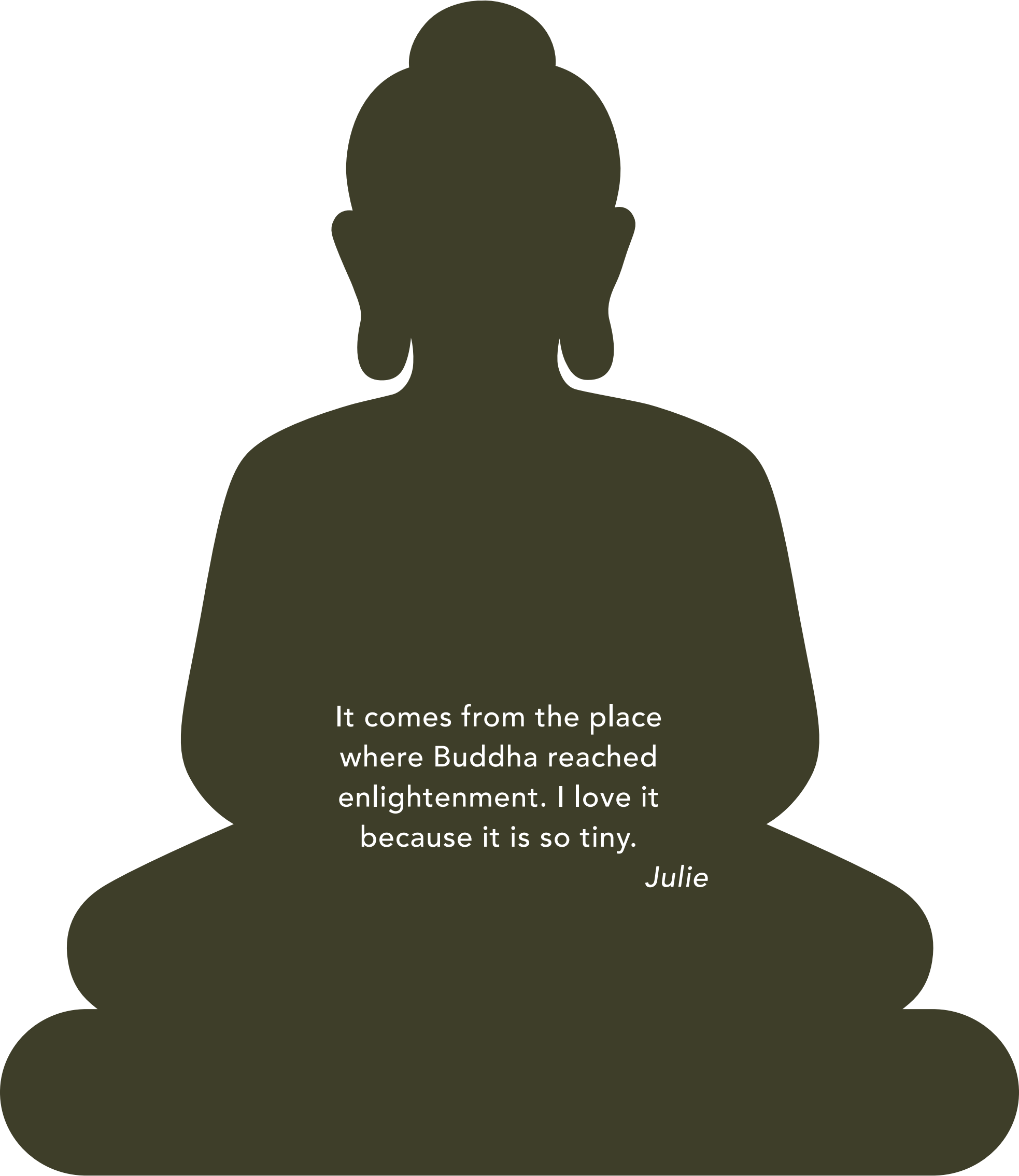
This Buddha was bought in the Russian Market in Phnom Penh. This particular Buddha seemed in such contrast after seeing the impact of the Khmer Rouge on the Cambodian people – it appears to be very peaceful and content!

Lara



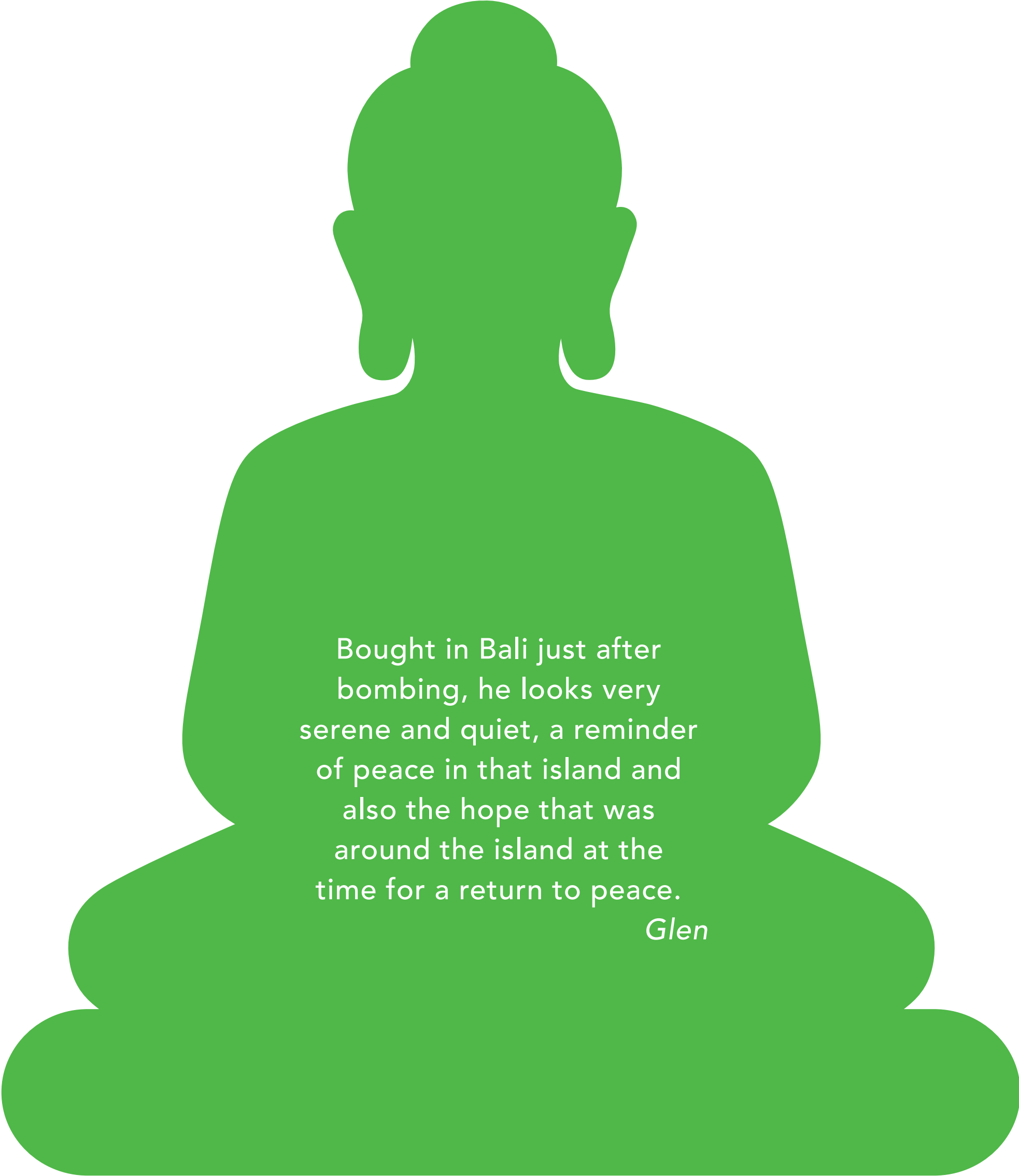
This Jerro – cement
'travelling Buddha' stands
in our garden overlooking the
veggie garden, the chooks
and my daughters play yard.

Rachel

A dark silhouette of a Buddha figure in a meditative pose, sitting cross-legged with hands resting on the knees. The figure is centered on a white background. The text is overlaid on the lower torso of the figure.


It comes from the place
where Buddha reached
enlightenment. I love it
because it is so tiny.

Julie



Bought in Bali just after bombing, he looks very serene and quiet, a reminder of peace in that island and also the hope that was around the island at the time for a return to peace.

Glen



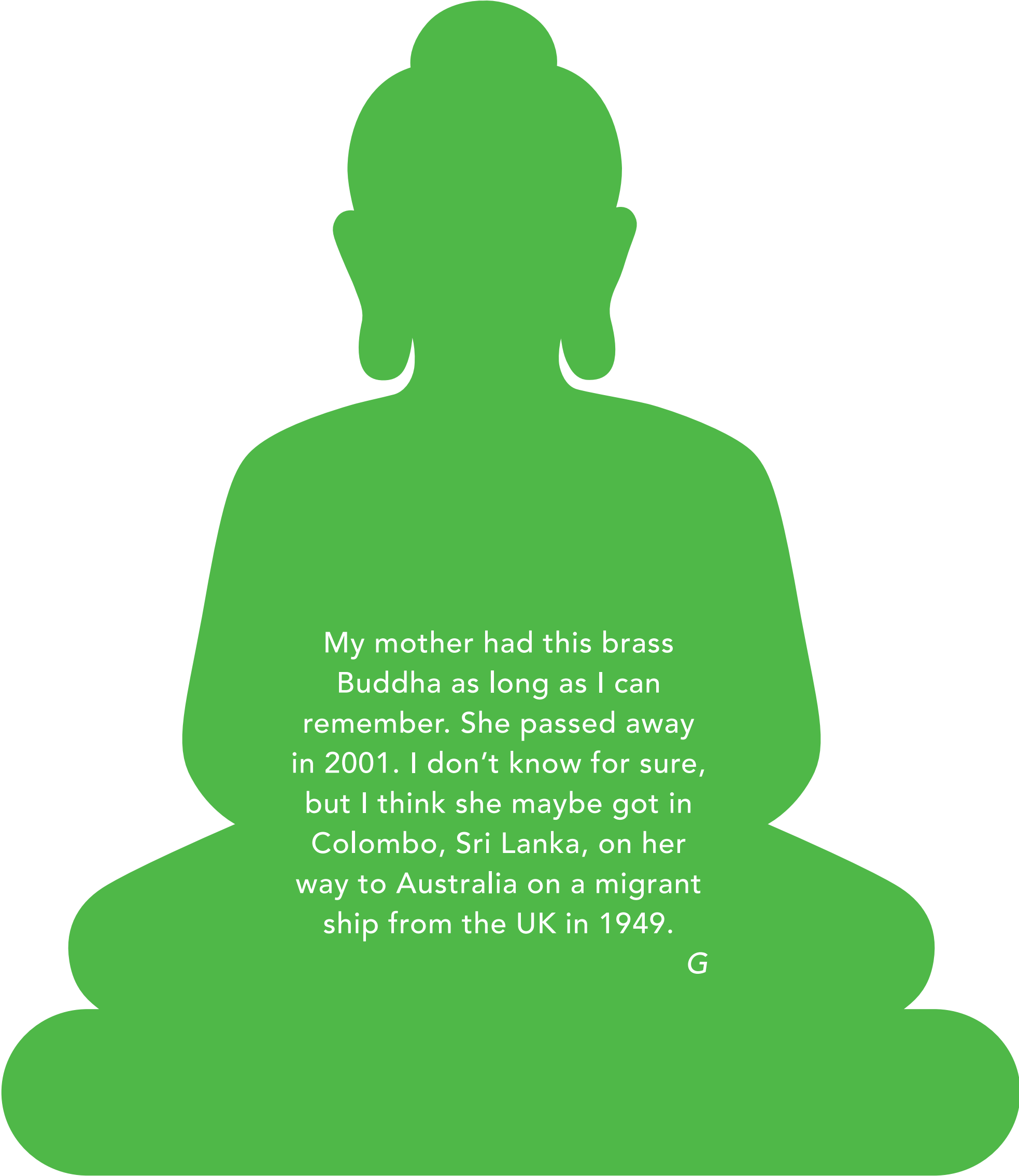
I obtained my Buddha
by winning the display bench
at our Gap Garden Club
competition. I hope he
brings me luck.

Patricia



This Buddha is attached to my dog tags and completed a tour of East Timor with me in 2000. In 1999, the Australian Army officially recognised Buddhism and as a result, my dog tags were the first in the Army to be inscribed with BUD in the rear.

Richard



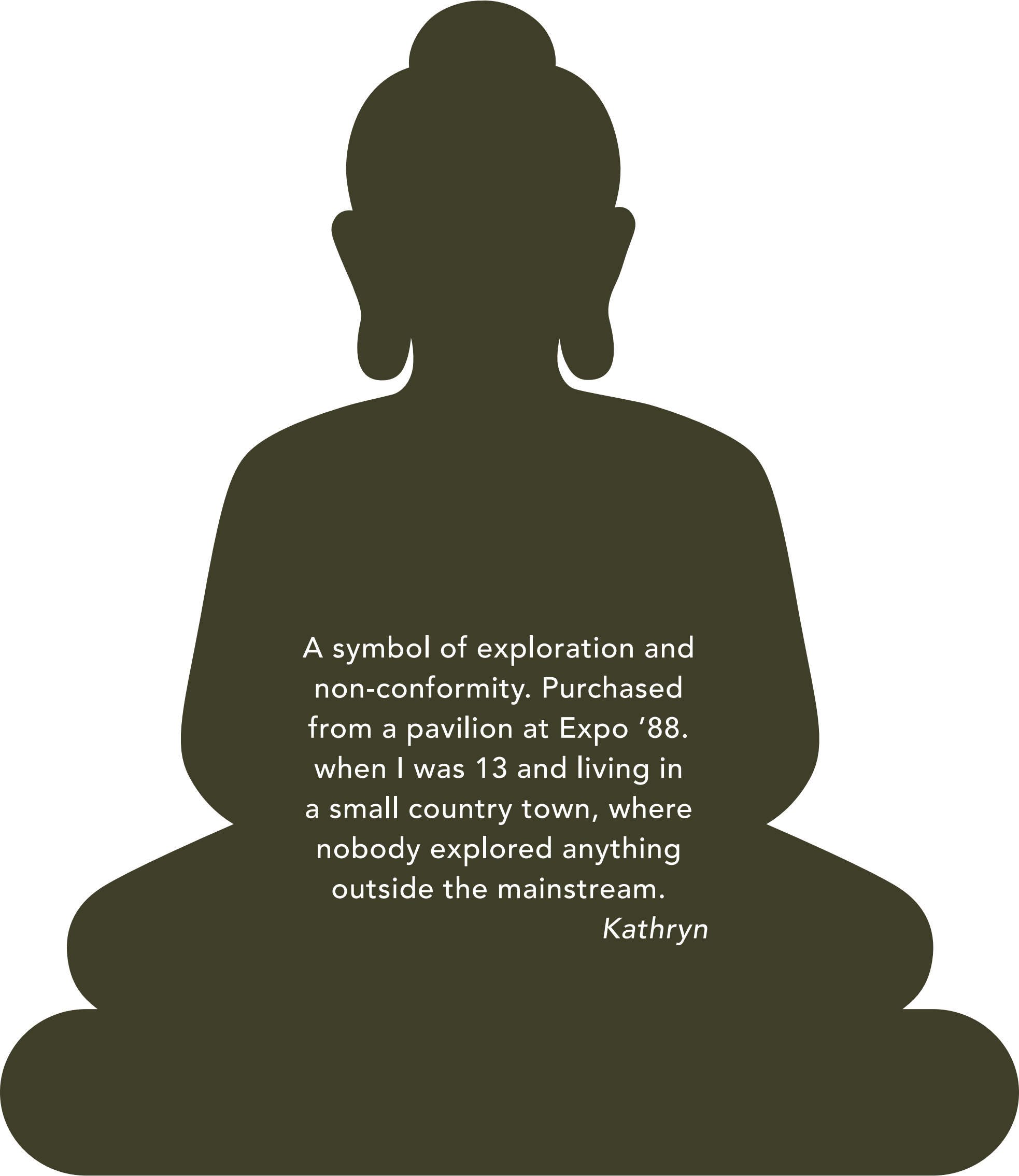
My mother had this brass Buddha as long as I can remember. She passed away in 2001. I don't know for sure, but I think she maybe got in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on her way to Australia on a migrant ship from the UK in 1949.

G



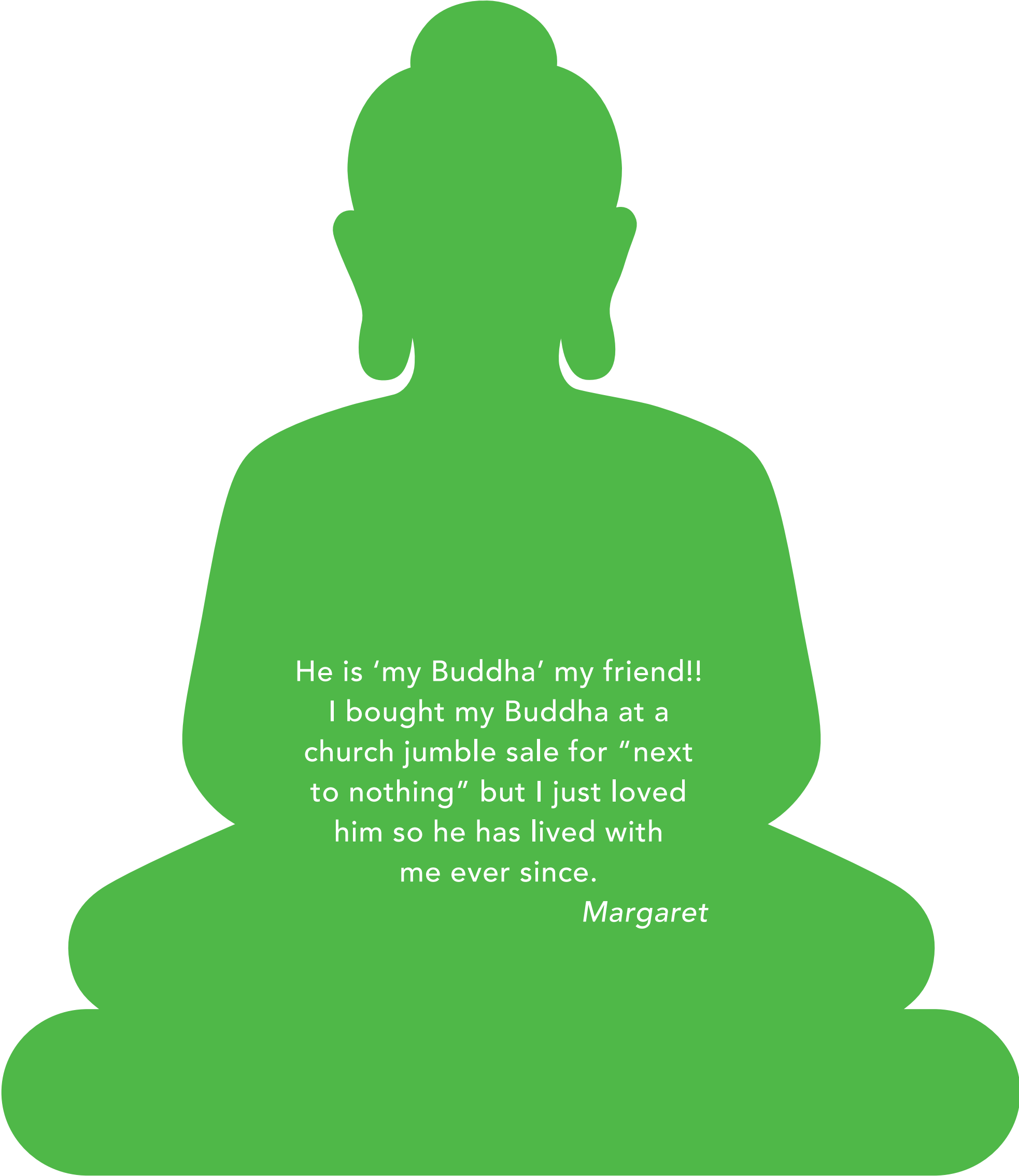
We have had the Buddha for 28 years in the family and it has always been on display in the house. I was living in the UK and on the first trip to Australia with my husband and baby son it was given to us on our flight by Thai Airlines.

Noeleen

A dark silhouette of a Buddha figure in a meditative pose, centered on a white background. The figure has a serene expression, with a prominent nose and a slight smile. The hair is styled in a bun on top of the head. The figure is seated in a lotus position, with the legs crossed and feet tucked under. The overall shape is rounded and symmetrical.

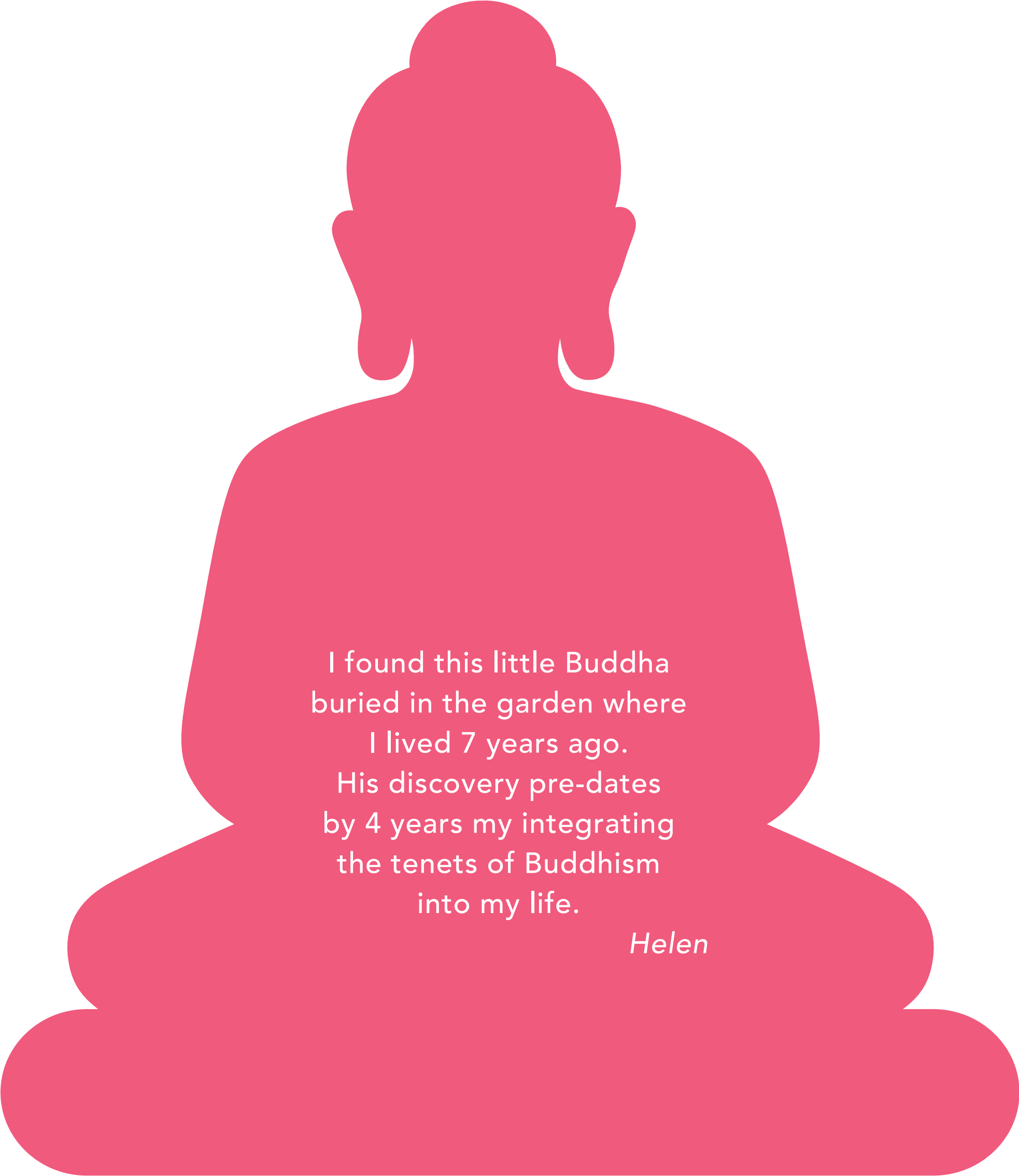
A symbol of exploration and non-conformity. Purchased from a pavilion at Expo '88. when I was 13 and living in a small country town, where nobody explored anything outside the mainstream.

Kathryn



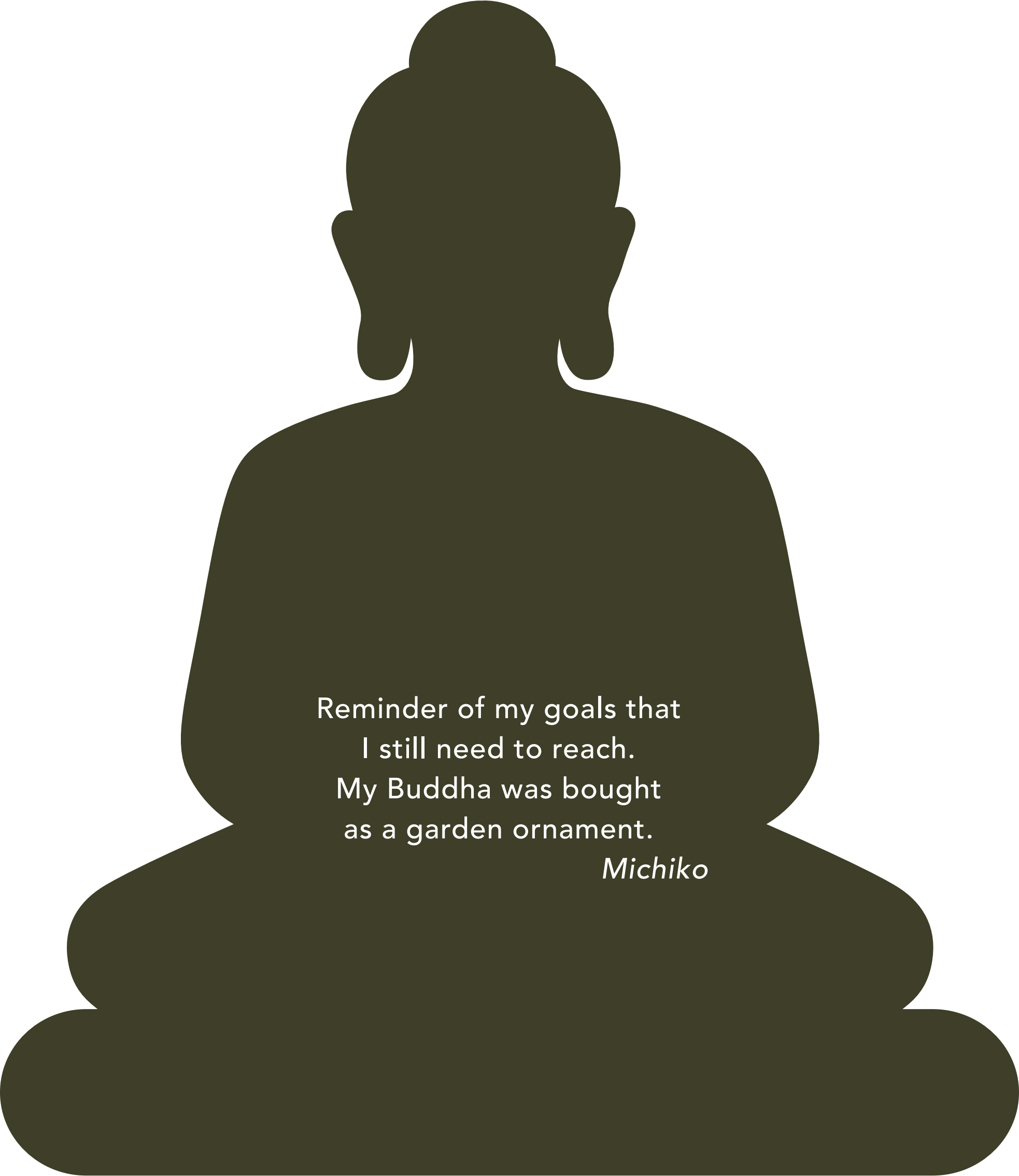
He is 'my Buddha' my friend!!
I bought my Buddha at a
church jumble sale for "next
to nothing" but I just loved
him so he has lived with
me ever since.

Margaret



I found this little Buddha
buried in the garden where
I lived 7 years ago.
His discovery pre-dates
by 4 years my integrating
the tenets of Buddhism
into my life.

Helen

A dark silhouette of a Buddha figure in a meditative pose, sitting cross-legged with hands in the lap. The figure has a serene expression and a topknot hairstyle. The text is centered on the figure's torso.

Reminder of my goals that
I still need to reach.
My Buddha was bought
as a garden ornament.

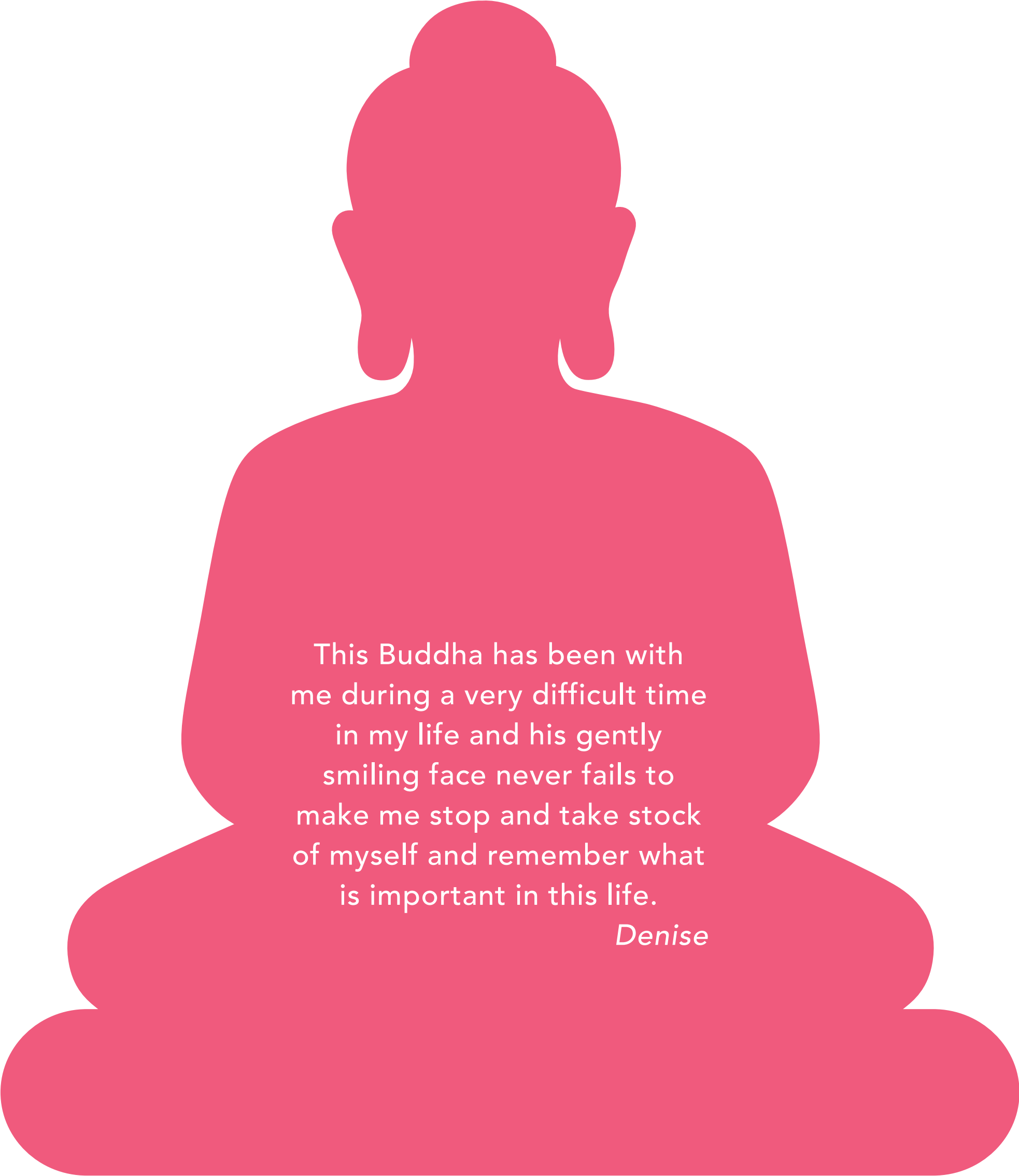
Michiko



His face radiates kindness
as I sit in front of my shrine
to meditate, reflect etc.

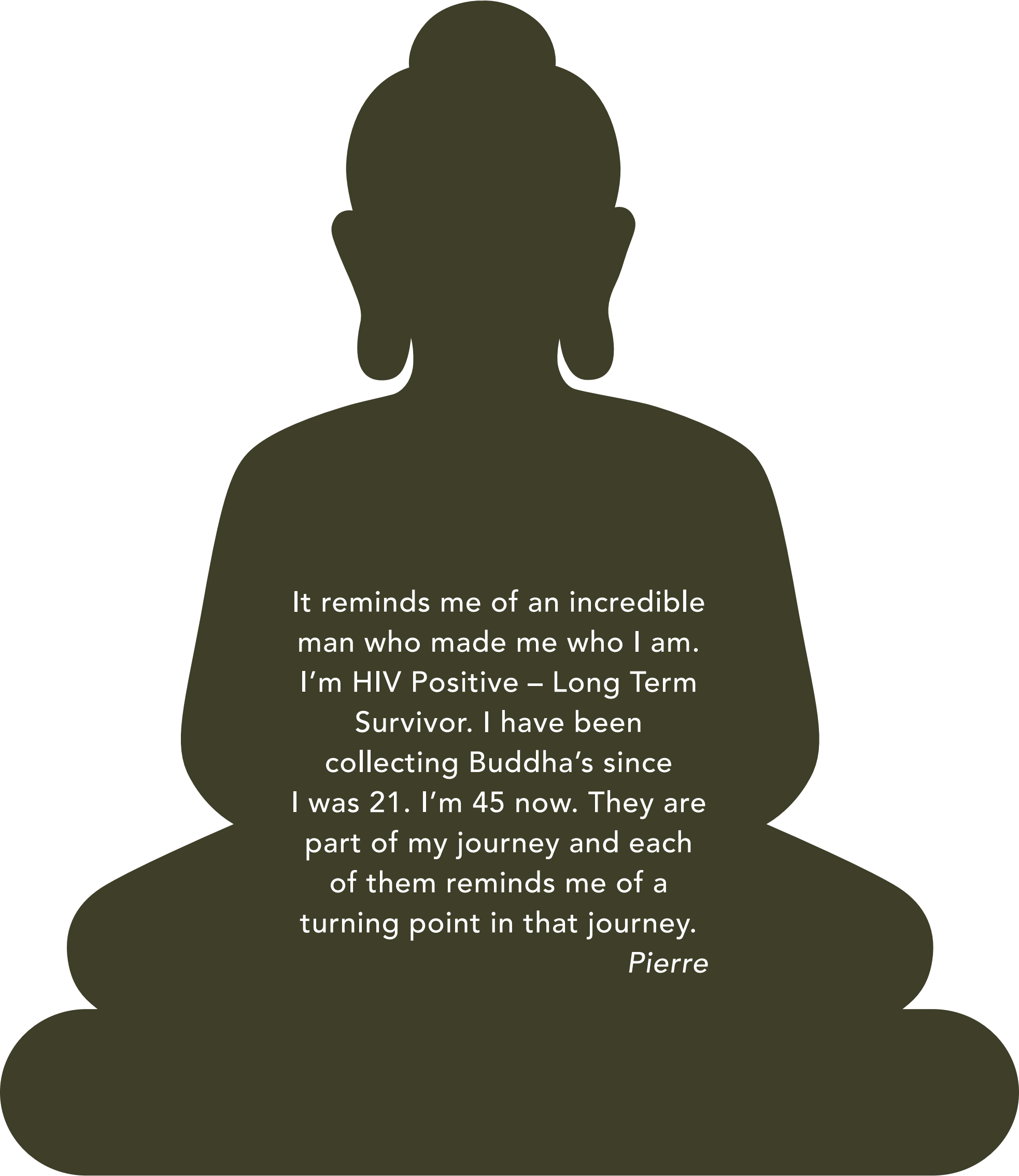
My Buddha sits on my
shrine as a symbol of my
own potential.

Alison



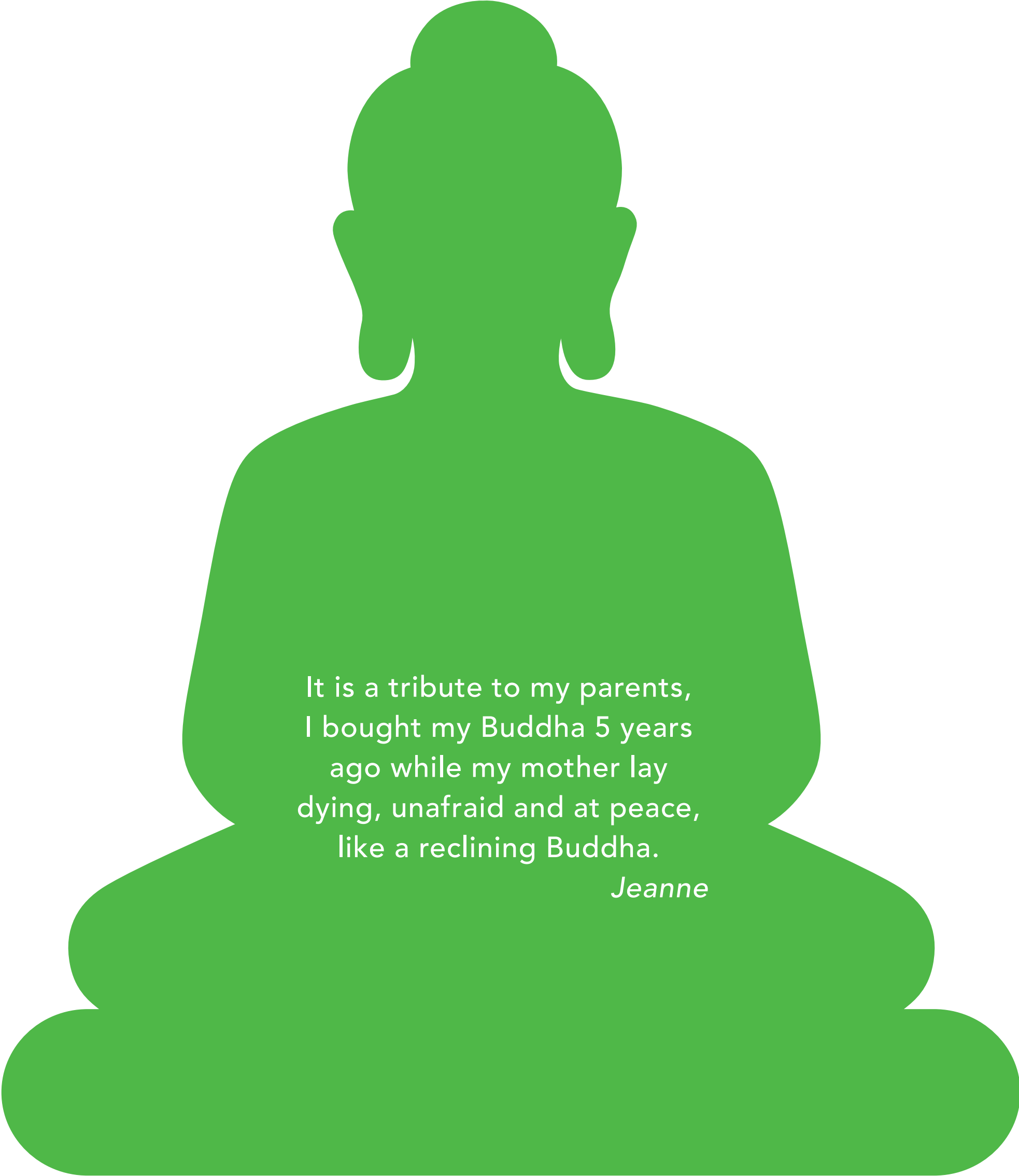
This Buddha has been with me during a very difficult time in my life and his gently smiling face never fails to make me stop and take stock of myself and remember what is important in this life.

Denise



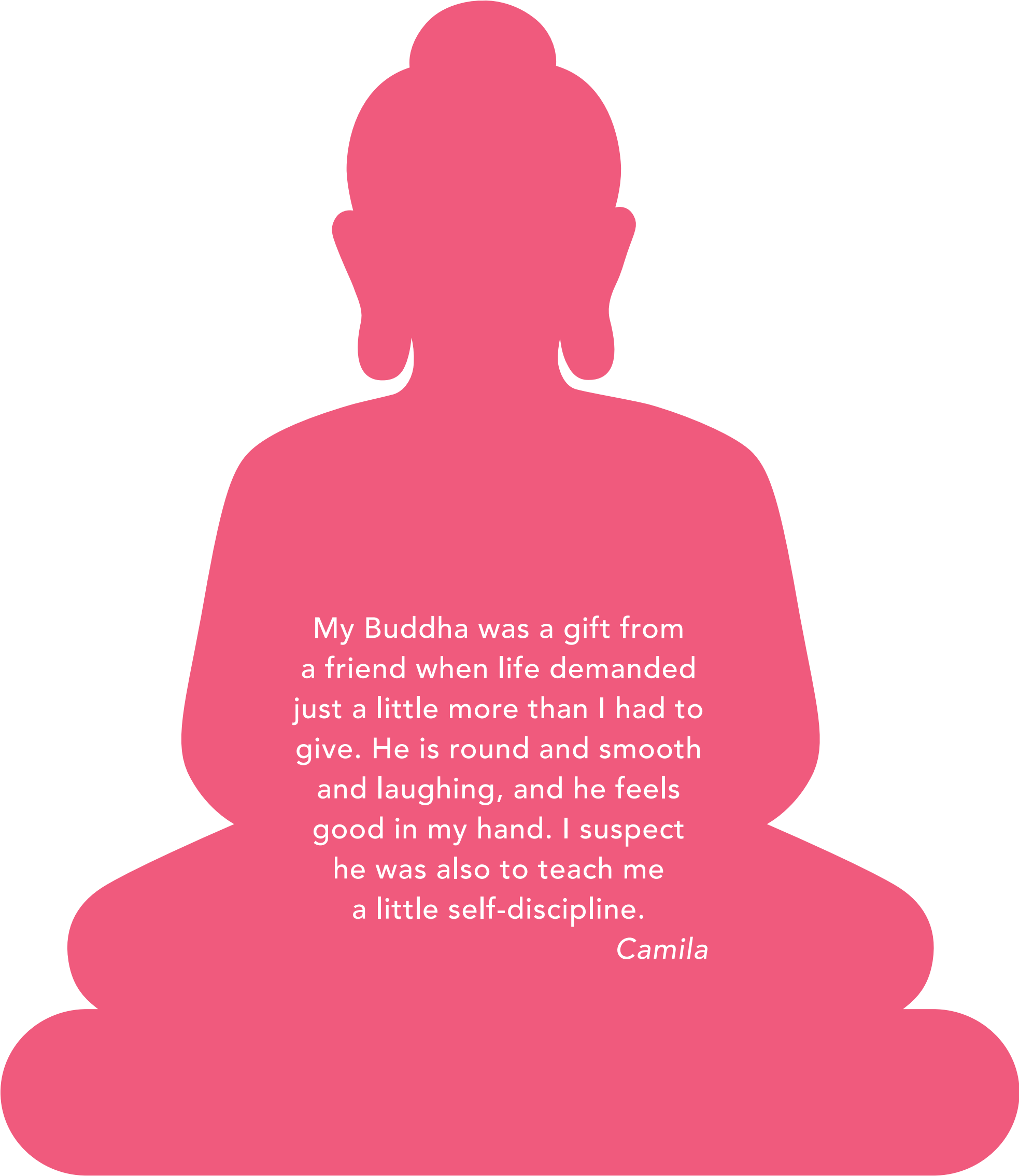
It reminds me of an incredible man who made me who I am. I'm HIV Positive – Long Term Survivor. I have been collecting Buddha's since I was 21. I'm 45 now. They are part of my journey and each of them reminds me of a turning point in that journey.

Pierre



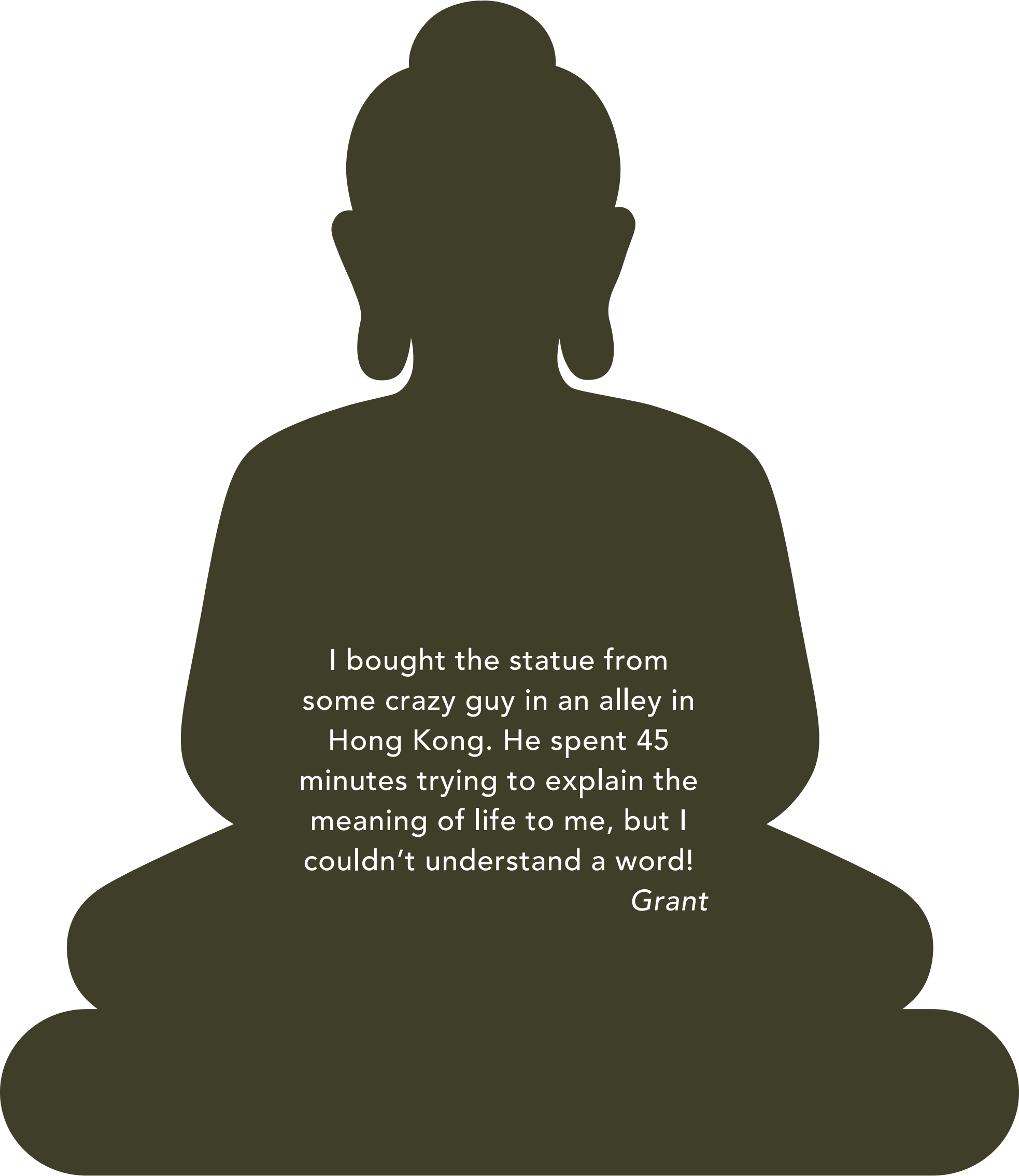
It is a tribute to my parents,
I bought my Buddha 5 years
ago while my mother lay
dying, unafraid and at peace,
like a reclining Buddha.

Jeanne




My Buddha was a gift from
a friend when life demanded
just a little more than I had to
give. He is round and smooth
and laughing, and he feels
good in my hand. I suspect
he was also to teach me
a little self-discipline.

Camila

A dark silhouette of a Buddha statue in a meditative pose, sitting cross-legged with hands in the lap. The statue is centered on a white background. The text is overlaid on the torso of the statue.


I bought the statue from
some crazy guy in an alley in
Hong Kong. He spent 45
minutes trying to explain the
meaning of life to me, but I
couldn't understand a word!

Grant



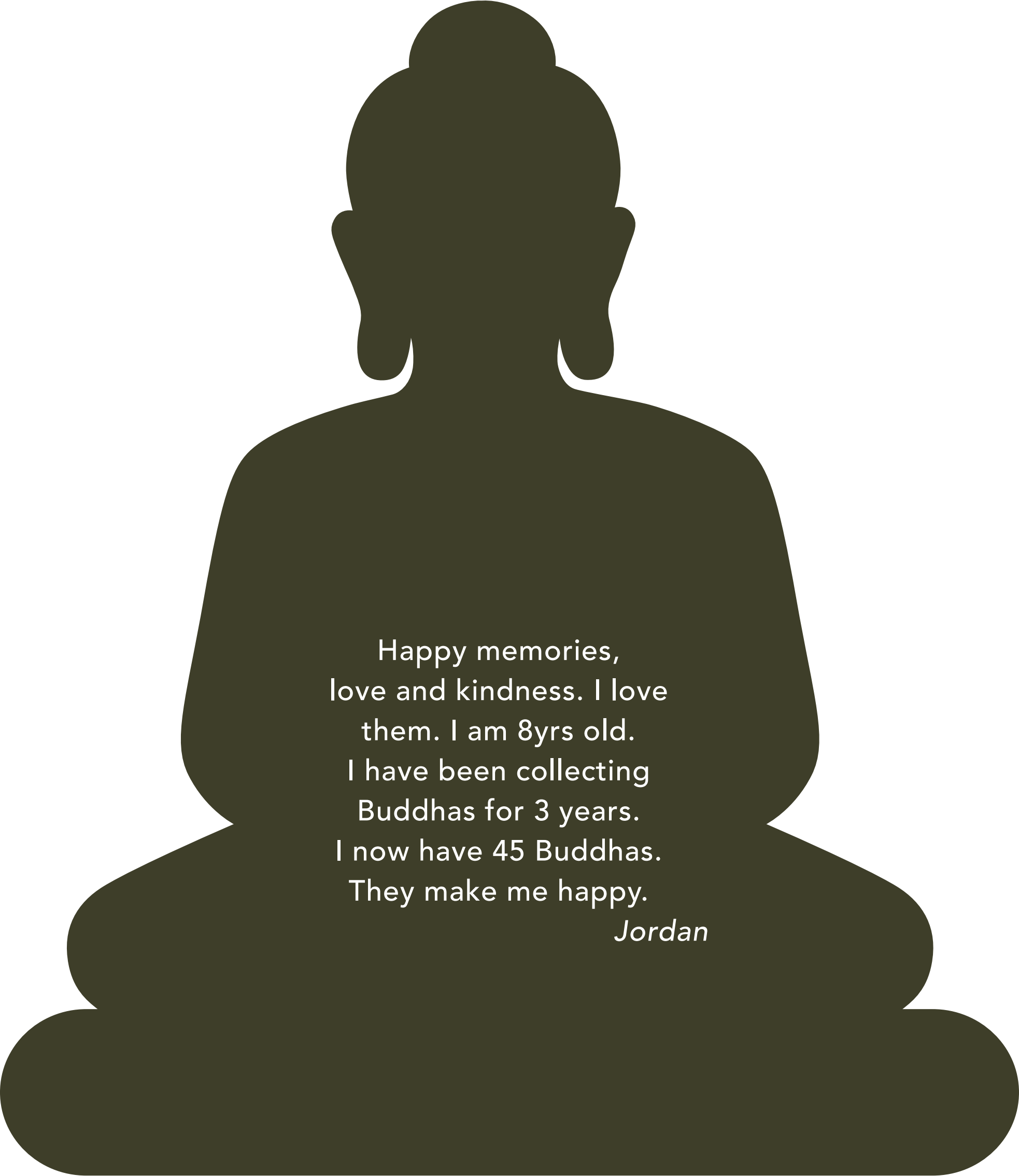
I have had my Buddha since I was at a school – maybe 27 years. I bought him at the White Elephant stall at my school fete. Back in hippy days! So he reminds me of a growing up time, when there was an open world before me.

Beth



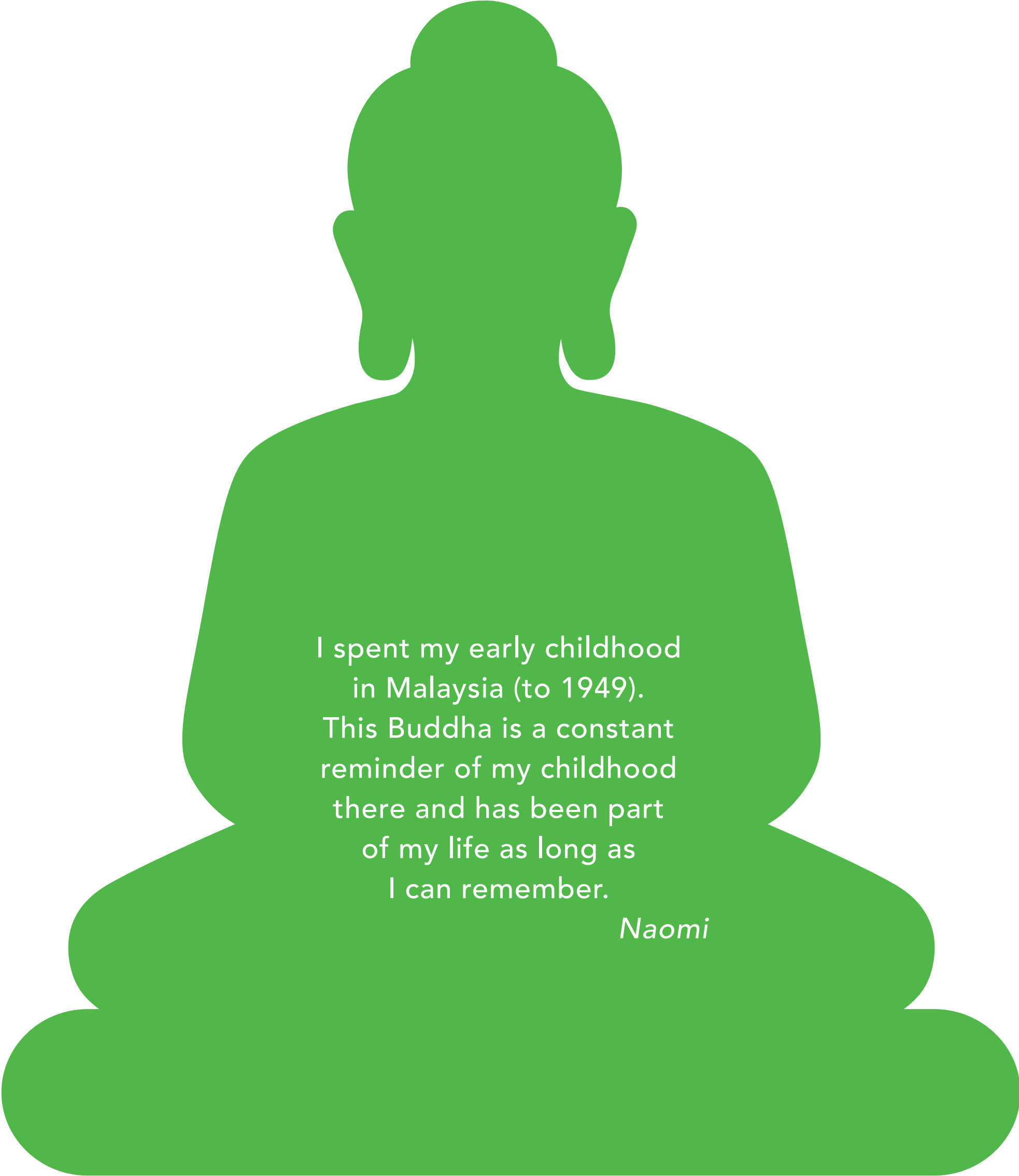
He is very precious and
sits atop the TV set.

Patricia

A dark silhouette of a Buddha figure in a meditative pose, sitting cross-legged with hands resting on the knees. The figure has a serene expression and a shaved head with a small tuft of hair on top. The background is plain white.

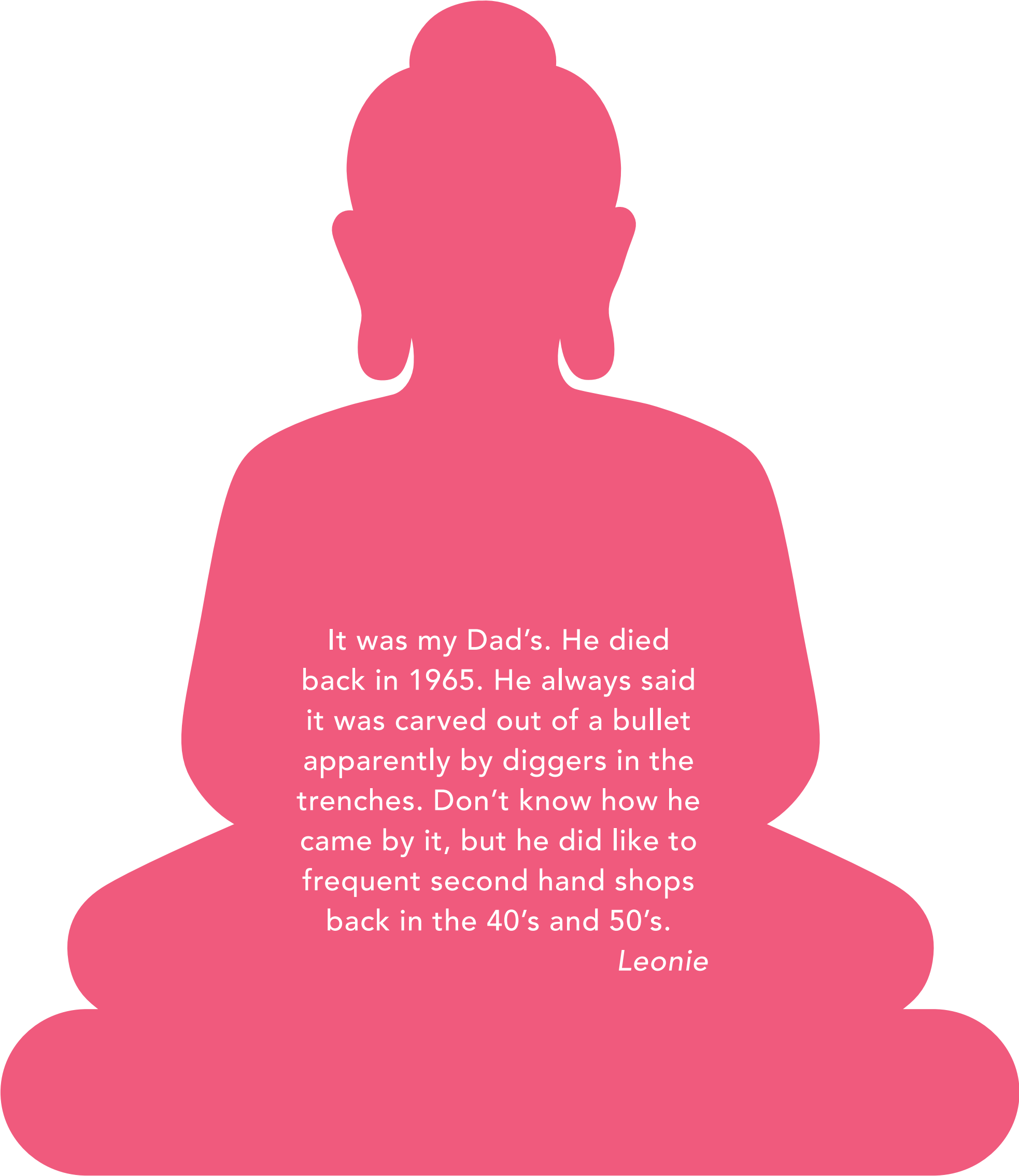
Happy memories,
love and kindness. I love
them. I am 8yrs old.
I have been collecting
Buddhas for 3 years.
I now have 45 Buddhas.
They make me happy.

Jordan



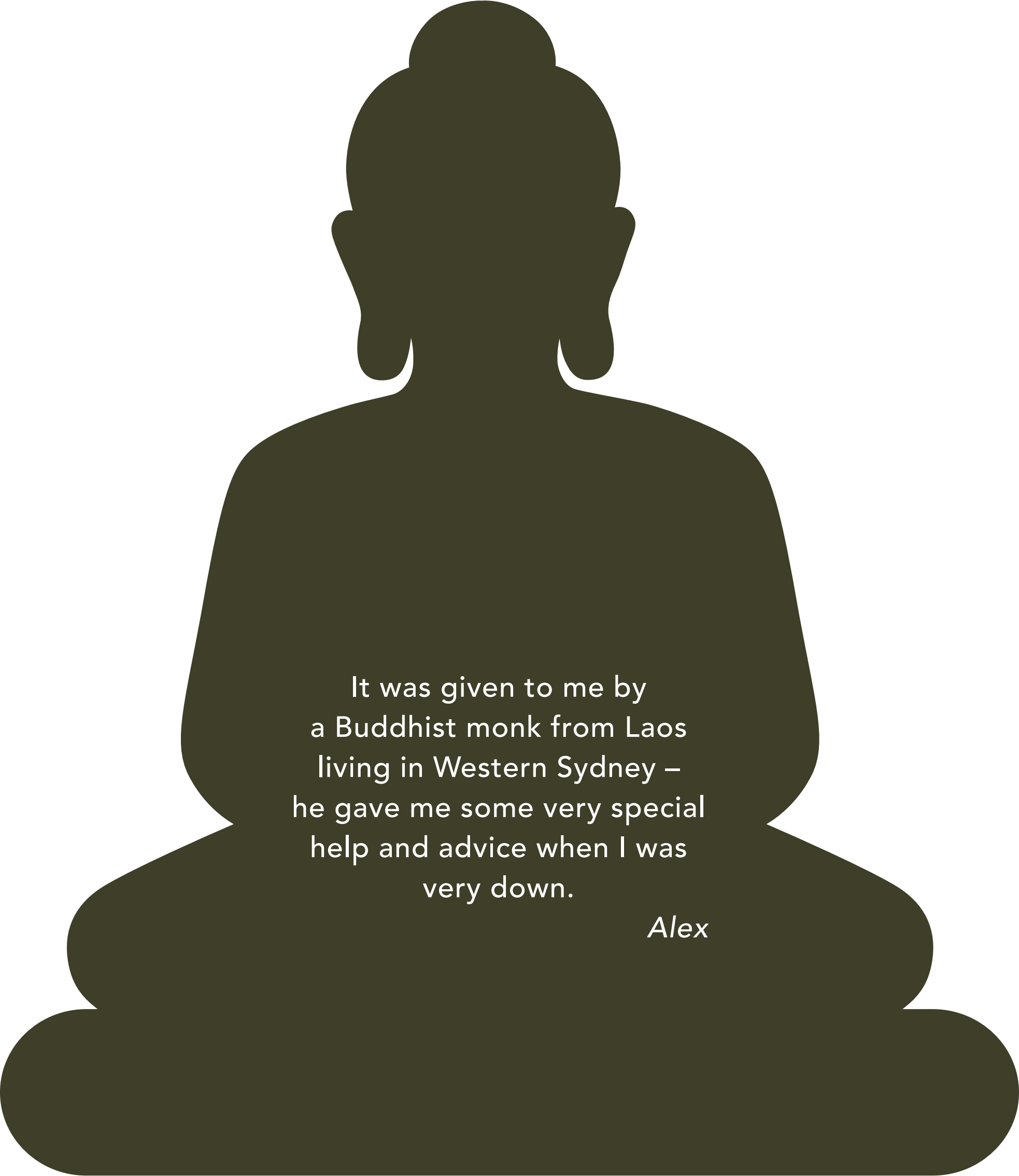
I spent my early childhood
in Malaysia (to 1949).
This Buddha is a constant
reminder of my childhood
there and has been part
of my life as long as
I can remember.

Naomi




It was my Dad's. He died back in 1965. He always said it was carved out of a bullet apparently by diggers in the trenches. Don't know how he came by it, but he did like to frequent second hand shops back in the 40's and 50's.

Leonie

A dark silhouette of a Buddhist monk sitting in a meditative pose (Padmasana). The monk's hair is shaved except for a circular patch on the top of the head, which is shaved. The monk is wearing a simple robe. The background is white.

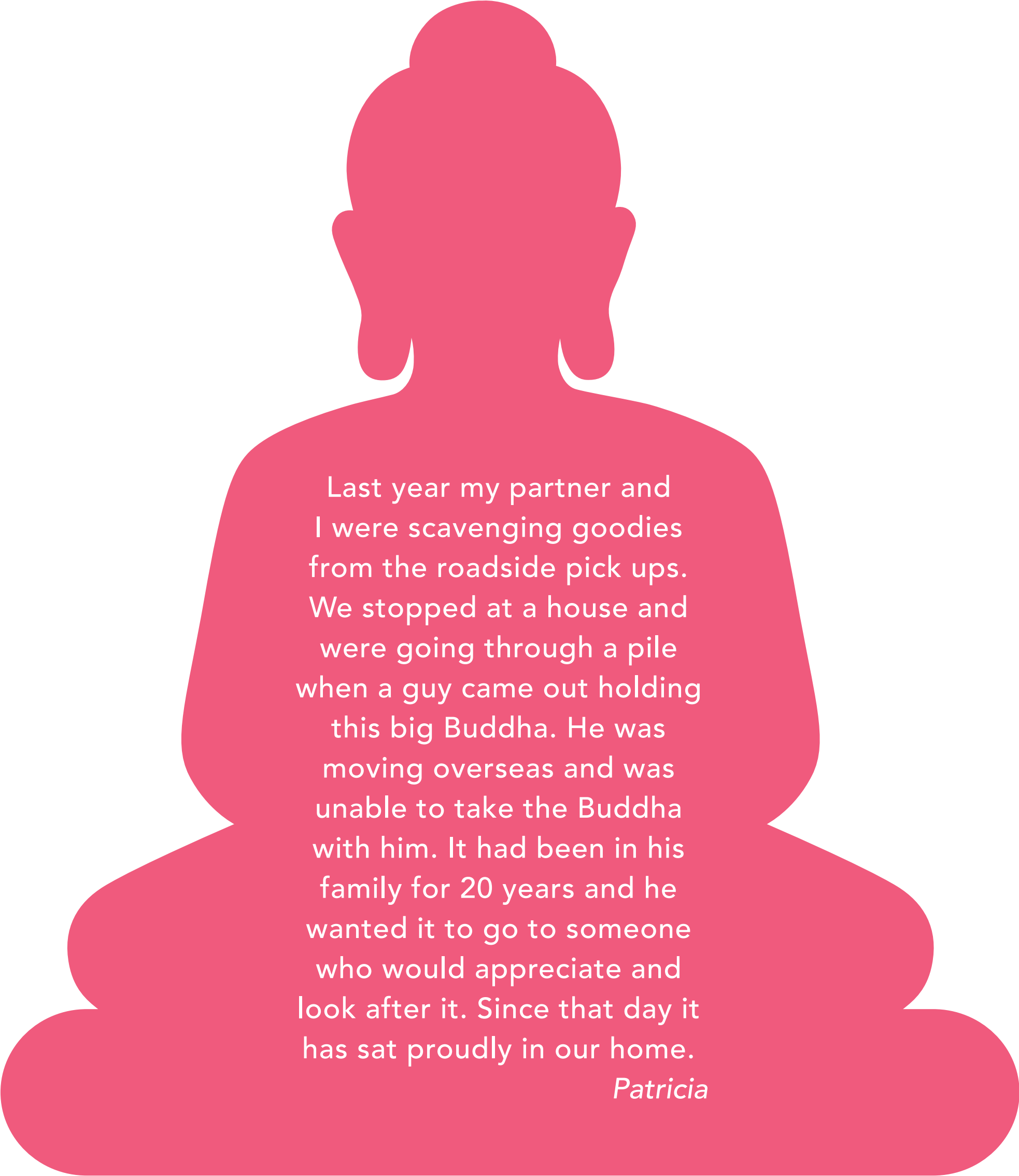
It was given to me by
a Buddhist monk from Laos
living in Western Sydney –
he gave me some very special
help and advice when I was
very down.

Alex



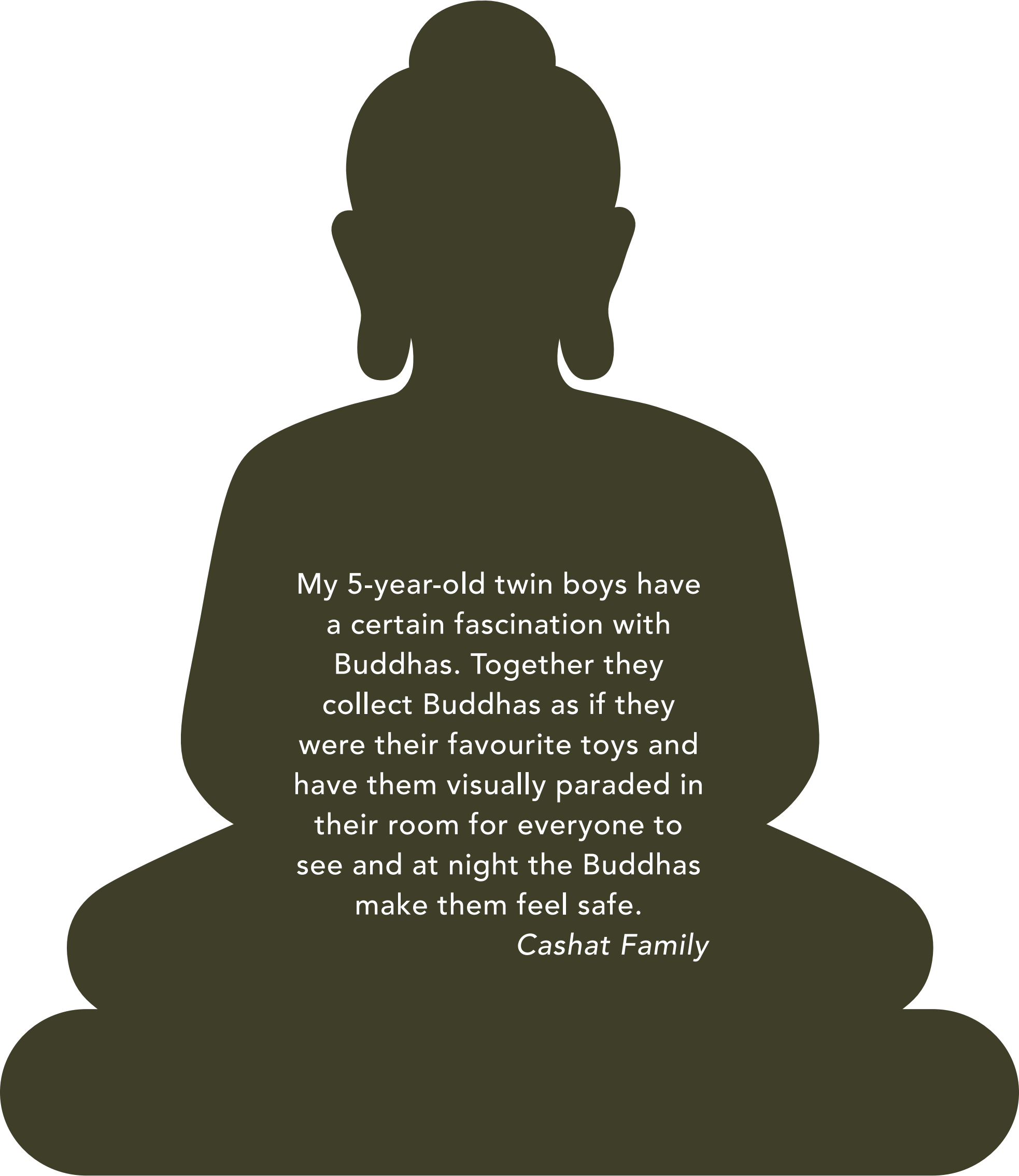
This one came from the market in Siem Reap and struck me immediately. It was a heavy load in my pack for the next 6 weeks, but I never regretted it.

Chris



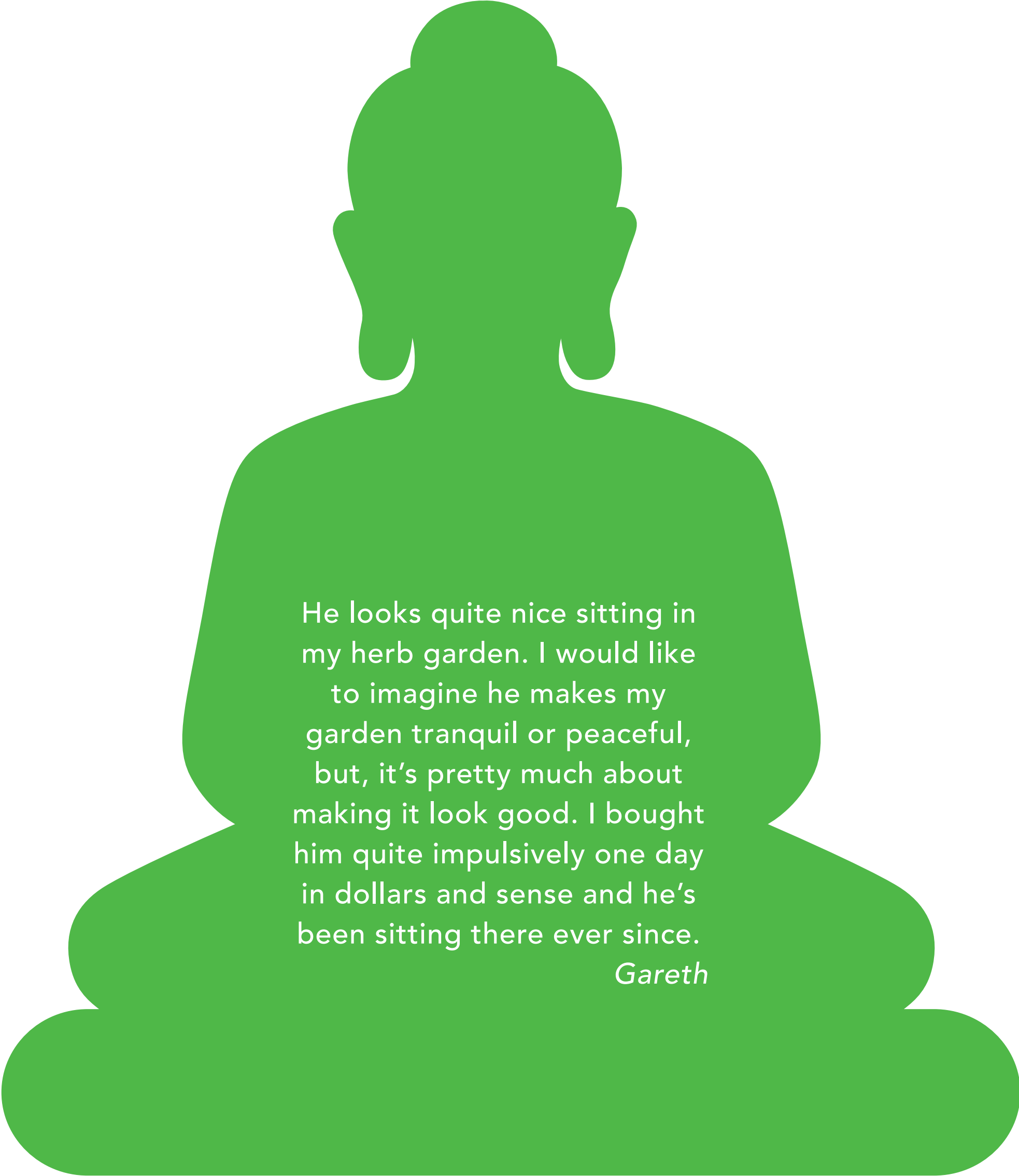
Last year my partner and I were scavenging goodies from the roadside pick ups. We stopped at a house and were going through a pile when a guy came out holding this big Buddha. He was moving overseas and was unable to take the Buddha with him. It had been in his family for 20 years and he wanted it to go to someone who would appreciate and look after it. Since that day it has sat proudly in our home.

Patricia



My 5-year-old twin boys have a certain fascination with Buddhas. Together they collect Buddhas as if they were their favourite toys and have them visually paraded in their room for everyone to see and at night the Buddhas make them feel safe.

Cashat Family



He looks quite nice sitting in my herb garden. I would like to imagine he makes my garden tranquil or peaceful, but, it's pretty much about making it look good. I bought him quite impulsively one day in dollars and sense and he's been sitting there ever since.

Gareth